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grand of Nin gold by all THE PARTY NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE PA A Long Will was EL THE SER HE TE The second secon The state of the s had been arranged. The momenti Rajoub saw us, he got up and left the restaurant. Arnon said. Gumik, a leader of Habad, sponin the same of said, sponsored a mass bar-mitzvah ceremony at the Western Wall yesterday. The state of the s

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'The Dybbuk' returns to haunt Jerusalem

Time Out

Opinion Shabbat Shalomii

Mideast danger

WASHINGTON (Reuter) - US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright yesterday warned of an "unpredictable and dangerous" Middle East situation as Palestinian officials arrived for talks on reviving the moribund

Today, in the Middle East, we face an unpredictable and dangerous situation caused by deterioration in the Arab-Israeli negotiating process," Albright said in a speech to the American Society of Newspaper Editors.

Arab-Israeli gains of recent years are threatened and the people of the region have again become victims of confrontation and violence, Albright said in her most gloomy assessment so far of peace prospects in the region. The reason is that Arabs and

Israelis alike have begun to lose faith in one another. The Oslo process and the working partnership between Israelis and Palestinians have broken down," she said.

Albright then met later with top Palestinian negotiators Saeb Erekat and Mahmoud Abbas. The two made no statement as they arrived at the State Department for preliminary talks with Middle East envoy Dennis Ross.

Palestinian commitment to prevent terror and violence, and that Palestinians saw Israeli actions as preempting issues reserved for

future negotiations. In a concession to Israeli views she said there was "oo moral equivalency between bulldozers and bombs," but she said Israel

"Both must assume responsibility for reversing the deterioration in the negotiating environment,"

A kosher coincidence?

By a strange twist of fate, Hebron settler leaders and Australian billionaire Joseph Gutnik found themselves in the same kosber Chinese restaurant at a Tel Aviv hotel last night as Jibril Rajoub, head of the Palestinian Preventive Security Service. Hebron Jewish community spokesman Noam Arnon was quick to deny that any meeting:

6:45 p.m. 7:45 p.m. 6:38 p.m. 7:45 p.m. 6:43 p.m. 7:43 p.m.

Adi Gordon was again the outstanding player for Jerusalem with 32 points. It was the first defeat for Maccabi Tel Aviv in domestic play this season.

responding to a soldier who asked him why troops were not taking a

stronger hand against Palestinian

Speaking to reporters in the

Netherlands, Prime Minister

Binyamin Netauyahu said yester-

day that Israel is oot interested in

"It is true that we have the capa-

retaking Palestinian-ruled towns.

bility to return to the towns, but we

are not interested, as the defense

minister rightly said, of going with this option," Netanyahu said.

option, primarily stopping vio-lence and terror and continuing the

Continued on Page 18

"We are searching for another

Match report, Page 19

THE HARD ROCK EXPERIENCE IN ISRAEL



Hapoel Jerusalem wins

basketball's State Cup

Happy Hour Tuesday, Friday DON'T MISS IT!!!

Albright Sharon Edri's murderers caught warns of Kafr Tzurif Hamas cell



One of Staff.-Sgt. Sharon Edri's alleged killers points out the soldier's grave in Kafr Tzurif yesterday.

(IDF Spokesman)

They should have listened to us

By MARGOT DUDKEYITCH

Another family plunged into mourning. The heartbreaking cries of parents, brothers, and sisters grieving for their brother, Sharon, pierced the air. Their hopes of seeing him alive were shattered, their world turned upside down in minutes.
For seven months, the Edri family never gave up bope. They searched and demonstrated, met with Palestinian Authority officials and even accompanied the prime minister to the US, hoping to draw attention to their plight, or stumble across a piece of information that

might aid in returning him bome alive.
Since the night of September 9, when Sharon telephoned and told his brother Shlomi he was on his way home, the family insisted he had been

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN and JON IMMANUEL

In a provocative warning to the

Palestinians, Defense Minister

Yitzhak Mordechai said yesterday

the IDF could retake Hebron and

other Palestinian-controlled cities

if it wanted to, but would prefer

to return and take over or reconquer

the city of Hebron or any other city." Mordechai said. "But that is

not what we want. We want to come

to a situation where the Palestinians

Mordechai, on a tour of military

Hapoel lerusalem won basket-

ball's State Cup for the second

straight year after scoring an

emphatic 89-82 win last night over

overwhelming favorites Maccabi

bases on the Golan Heights, was

carry out their part of the deal."

"Believe me there is no problem

cooperation instead.

kidnapped. They refused to accept police claims that he had disappeared for personal reasons or

had suffered difficulties in the army. Until yesterday afternoon, the family still boped Sharon would be found alive. Last Sunday, family and friends celebrated Sharon's 21st birthday, hoping they would receive news he was alive.

"Since the day he disappeared we told every-one Sharon had been kidnapped, but no one listened," said Shlomi. "They kept saying maybe he had personal problems... I want each and every one of them to look me in the eye now."

Seated on a couch surrounded by family, Hannah, Sharon's mother, said with tears in her eyes, "I told them to search elsewhere, to go into the villages, but, no, they kept

saying they had no information." Rafi Edri, Sharon's uncle blamed the IDF

and police, calling their attempts to find Sbaron a failure. "They murdered bim twice," he said. "They lost precious hours by insisting he disappeared for personal reasons instead of listening to us. "No one pointed a finger at the Palestinian Authority."

"Unol now we had hoped to see him alive," said his father Yitzhak, "but those cruel terrorists shot him and buried his body. I demand to be allowed to kill the terrorist who did this."

Wiping tears from her eyes, as frieods and relatives tried to comfort her, Hannah said, They should bomb Kafr Tzurif and kill them all. In another few years, they will release the terrorist who murdered my son."

Mordechai: We could Netanyahu credits PA retake Hebron if needed with helping find Edri

By JON IMMANUEL and news agencies

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu yesterday credited the Palestinians with cooperation in locating the body of Staff-Sgt. Sharon Edri.

Netanyahu, speaking from The Hague, said the Palestinian Authority's arrest of two members of the Hamas cell had led to the locating of Edri's body.

"I wish to make it clear that in the last part of this operation we received very specific support from the Palestinian Authority," he said.
"We continue to expect that the
Palestinian Authority will do all
that it should in the struggle against terrorism. Full cooperation, both in prevention of violent demonstrations and in the war against terror, is still not being carried ont, and it is important that it should be."

The PA denied yesterday that it had resumed security coordination with Israel. Marwan Kanafani, spokesman for PA Chairman Yasser Arafat, said, "All this case means is that we are concerned with human aspects of the conflict between us. It has oothing to do with politics or security. We still have a problem with the Israelis and the problem of security is a direct result of the political problem."

Arafat adviser Nabil Abu Rudeineh said: "We cooperate with the Israelis even when there is no security coordination. If we bave anything that the Israelis need, we pass it on regardless."

OC Intelligence Maj.-Gen. Moshe Ya'alon, who earlier accused Arafat of giving a greeo light to Hamas attacks, credited the Palestinian Police with helping solve the Edri case, but "only this case. I would say at this stage."

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behind 11 killings

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

The IDF has located the body of missing Staff-Sgt. Sharon Edri, and broken up the Hamas cell responsible for his kidnap-murder and the killing of at least 11 and the wounding of 49 other Israelis over the past two years.

Two of the terrorists are being held by Israel, two by the Palestinians, and one is still at large, A sixth member of the cell, Moussa Ranimat, blew himself up, appareotly unintentionally, at Tel Aviv's Apropo cafe last month. killing three women,

Ironically, the botched bombing led to the capture of the cell.

Previous kidnap-murders, Page 2 Hebron clashes continue, Page 2

Israel sought and received the help of the Palestinian Authority, which arrested two of the terrorists in the Palestinian-cootrolled part of Hebron and brought them to the West Bank village of Kafr Tzurif to show where they had buried Edri.

Defeose Minister Yitzhak Mordechai and the IDF brass. nonetheless, did little to hide their disappointment at the lack of Palestinian cooperation to foil terfor attacks. "The PA is not work-

No one was injured."

ing with all force and measures it has to foil terror and to fight against the foundations of terror, Mordechai told a press conference in Tel Aviv.

He said Israel would demand the extradition of the terrorists.

OC Central Command Maj.-Gen. Uzi Dayan said the cell, sometimes referred to as the "Haihoul Cell," was responsible for the murder of 11 Israelis in a series of attacks since 1995.

Dayan said the IDF has arrested dozeos of Palestinians since the Tel Aviv bombing and that 18 were arrested yesterday in Kafr Tzurif.

According to the IDF, the cell was led by Ismail Ranimat, 25, a resident of Kafr Tzurif who studies in Hebron. He was jailed in 1993-1994 as a Hamas member.

Other members were Gamal Jibril Alhour, 27, of Kafr Tzurif: Rayid Salah Abu Hamid, 21, who carried an east Jerusalem ID and lives in Hebron; Ibrahim Abdallah Ranimat, 39, of Kafr Tzurif, who has been detained numerous times for membership in various terror groups; and Iman Mahmud Kafishe, 27, of Hebron, who was once jailed for membership in Hamas

Israel is holding Abu Hamid and Kafishe, who told their interrogators they underwent military training and claimed at least five driveby shootings, the Edri kidnap-murder, and planting the bomb at the Apropo cafe.

Continued on Page 18

Tzurif terror

The Kafr Tzurif Hamas cell began its terror with drive-by shootings in late 1995 and moved on to kidnappings and eventually the suicide bombing in Tel Aviv last month, according to the IDF. March 21, 1997 - Cell member Moussa Ranimat blows himself up at the Apropo cafe in Tel Aviv killing Yael Gilad, Anat Winter-Rosen, and Michai Midan-Avrahami, and wounding 47 others. September 9, 1996 - Kidnapping and murder of Staff-Sgt. Sharon Edri hitchhiking to his home in Moshav Zanoah. His

body is buried near the village. July 26, 1996 - Drive-by shooting near Moshav Tirosh killing.

Uri Muok, his son Ze'ev, and his wife Rachel.

June 9, 1996 - Members of the cell open fire on a car near

Moshav Gefen, killing Yaron and Efrat Unger, of Kiryat Arba.

January 16, 1996 - Murder of Maj. Oz Tivon, a doctor, and Sgt. Yaniv Shimel, a medic when their car is attacked near Kannei Tzur. December 9, 1995 - Drive-by shooting near Neveh Daniel in Gush Etzion. Youatan Moshitz and his daughter Lior are wounded. November 18, 1995 - Opened fire on a vehicle driven by a resident of Jerusalem as it passed the village of Beir Omar, Arieh O'Sullivan



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Clashes continue in Hebron

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH

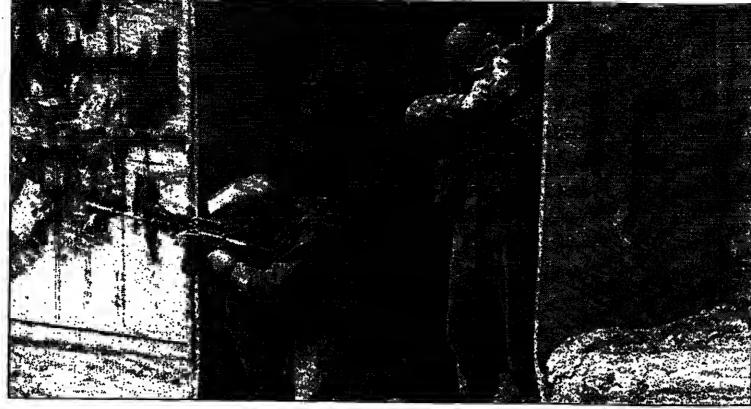
Hebron yesterday was once again the scene of fierce clashes between IDF and Border Police forces and rioting Palestinians. According to the IDF Spokesman 15 firebombs were hurled at soldiers and border policemen, but no one was injured. The Palestinians claim 13 rioters were wounded,

mainly by rubber bullets, and taken to hospital.

Rioting broke out in different areas of Hebron throughout the day; a different strategy compared to previous days, when unrest was concentrated in Kikar Hashoter, Shallala Street, and the casbah. In the morning Palestinians threw bottles and stones at troops near Bcit Romano. Settlers also claimed a firebomb was thrown at Beit Hadassah, where hundreds of Palestinians threw stones at sol-

Later, rioting was reported in Shallalah Street, El Fara junction near Hebron, and Tarik junction. Although the Palestinian Police tried to prevent the rioters from surging towards IDF troops guarding the Jewish sections, they appeared to lose control of the rioters several times. IDF troops fired rubber bullets to disperse

Clashes also erupted briefly in Bethlehcm, where scores of



IDF soldiers prepare to fire rubber bullets at Palestinian rioters in Hebrou yesterday.

Palestinian university students marched towards Rachel's Tomb and stoned soldiers. Troops fired tear gas and rubber bulicts, but there were no reports of casualties.

By late afternoon the rioting had stopped.

Settlers belonging to the Committee for Road Safety caught two Palestinians throwing

stones on the Halhoul bypass road esterday afternoon. They claimed that scores of cars had been damaged yesterday morning due to barrages of stones on the Halhoul

NEWS

ly sought hospital treatment.

bypass road. The settlers reportedbeat the two 17-year-old Palestinians before releasing them. One of the youths reported-

Hebron Jews want safety guarantees

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH

Hebron Community yesterday demanded that the government use a firmer hand to quell the riots and ensure its safety.

Community spokesman Noam Arnon said that it is inconceivable that rioting Palestinians constantly cross into Israelicontrolled areas and IDF troops do nothing.

The Palestinians are violating the Oslo agreement constantly. he said, adding that on Wednesday rioters reached the entrance to Beit Hadassah and threw firebombs. "It was lucky none of the children were out-

Leaders of the community met with Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai on Wcdnesday and mentioned the deterioration in security. Points mentioned included the fact that the road to Tel Rumeida through the Israelicontrolled area is being repaired, and settlers are forced to travel on an alternative road in the Palestinian area until the work, which started last month, is completed.

"Yesterday, even the HI road was closed for some time

because of rioting and Tel Rumeida was completely isolated," Arnon said.

Another Hebron settler, David Wilder added that the settlers also raised the treatment of the two yeshiva students who were arrested for shooting at Palestinians who threw acid in their face. One of the Palestinians later died of his wounds, causing the violence to

escalate. "The two students' lives were in danger, everyone has the right to defend themselves," he said, adding that settlers are issued weapons to defend themselves.

In addition, the settlers also demanded that permits be anthorized to continue building in Hebron. According to Wilder Mordechai said that a permit had been authorized to complete construction of Beit Nahum in the Avraham Avinu quarter, but had left it up to IDF to decided when the time is suitable.

Kiryat Arba activist Elyakim Haetzni told Arutz 7 yesterday that if the IDF is unable to control the situation and protect the settlers, then maybe settlers should go into Arab villages to deter the stone-throwers.



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> 9:15 Opening Remarks

SASSON SOFER, Director, Leonard Davis Institute for International Relations, The Hebrew University

JAN SENKYR, Deputy Representative of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation to Israel

9:30 First Session

Chairman: ARIE KACOWICZ, Department of International Relations, The Hebrew University

MOSHE LISSAK, Department of Sociology, The Hebrew University "The Unique Features of Civil-Military Relations in Israel" VICTOR LAVY, Department of Economics, The Hebrew University "Regional Political Changes -

Country Risks and Direct Foreign Investments in the Middle East"

Intermission

11:15

Second Session

Chairman: BENJAMIN MILLER, Department of International Relations. The Hebrew University

MENAHEM HOFNUNG, Department of Political Science, The Hebrew University "The Peace Process and the Internationalization of Internal Legal Arrangements" SASSON SOFER, Department of International Relations.

The Hebrew University "Diplomacy of a Divided Society"

> 12:30 Panel Discussion

Opening shortly, G-d willing

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Knesset to hold special session

By LIAT COLLINS

The Knesset is expected to bold a special session in the recess on Monday following a request signed by 30 MKs, after four urgent motions to the agenda were put forward. The motions are:

"The serious deterioration in the situation in the territories as a result of a freeze in the diplomatic process." (Labor)

Ten months of Netanyahu's government -

no peace, and no security." (Meretz) The Palestinian Authority's violations of

the peace agreements and encouragement of vinlence," and "The government's stand in the struggle to preserve the unity of Jerusalem." (both Likud).

The initial move for the special session came from MK Eli Goldschmidt, acting Labor faction chairman, who gathered the 30 signatures necessary to request the Knesset be convened in a recess. He said the riots and deaths in

Hebron this week marked a new low since the disturbances in September and were reason to hold a Knesset discussion.

The request was authorized by deputy speaker Meir Sheetrit (Likud), who is filling in for Speaker Dan Tichon while he is on an official visit in the Far East with several other

Also Monday, Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu is scheduled to address the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee.

Sharon wants Hebron security beefed up

By Jerusalem Post Reporter

National Infrastructure Ariel Sharon (Likud) called for Israel to change the agreement it signed with the Palestinian

Authority on Hebron to increase . rity for Hebron's Jewish residents," security for settlers in the city. The situation is very dangerous and it is likely to become worse.

The Hebron Accord must be own population. changed to provide additional secu-

yesterday. "We cannot rely on other forces to provide protection for our Sharon said he was not calling

Sharon said in a radio interview

for Israel to re-enter PA-controlled areas, but to make logistical changes that would permit Israeli troops to provide greater security for Hebron's Jewish

Previous abduction-murders

The following is a list of IDF soldiers and security personnel lidnapped by terrorists since 1973:

12.73 - Soldier Eli Luco is kidnepoed and murdered while hitchhilding at Beit Lid.

1.79 - Soldier David Shamir is kidnapped and murdered near Kerem Shallom. His body is found nine months taler. His killers are captured and sentenced to prison. 11,80 - Soldler Avi Baremberg is kidnapped and murdered near Pardess Hanna. His murderers are captured

5.83 - Soldier David Bultra is kidnapped at Sharon junction and shot in the head. His killers are captured. 8.84 - Soldier Moshe Tamam is kidnapped and mur-

dered on his way home. His killers are sent to prison. 11.84 - Soldier David Manos is kidnapped and murdered on the Lod-Petah Tikva road. His body is found

nearly two years later. His killers are captured. 11.84 - Soldier Hadass Kedmi is kidnapped white hitchhiking. Her body is found near Kilbbutz Beit Oren two

- Soldier Aldva Shaltiel is kildnapped and murdered on the Petah Tikva-Rosh Hatayin road. His killers are sentenced.

12.85 - Soldier Moshe Levy is kidnapped and mur-

dered, and his body is set on fire. Fatah's Force 17 claims

2.86 - Soldiers Yosef Fink and Rahamim Alsheikh are kidnapped in southern Lebanon by Hizbullah. Their bodles are returned to Israel in a prisoner exchange in July

9.87 - Soldier Hanoch Denman is kidnapped and mur-

dered while hitchhiking near Acre. Two Israell Arabs are sentenced for his murder. 2.89 - Sot. Avi Sasportas is kidnapped and murdered while hitchhilding in the South. His body is found three

months later. Harnas claims responsibility. 5.89 - Pvt. Ilan Sa'adon is Iddnapped by Hamas. His body is found in July 1996.

murdered while hitchhiking near Jerusalem. Haimas claims responsibility. dered while hitchhildng near Beersheba. Hamas claims

7.94 - Cpl. Arya Frankenthal, 19, is kidnapped and mur-

12.92 - Border Police Sgt-Mai, Nissim Toledano, 29, is.

iddnapped on his way to work in Lod by Hamas and muit

dered several hours later. His body is found three days

3.93 - Pvt. Yehoshua Friedberg, 24, is kidnapped and

8.93 - Pvt. Yaron Hen is kidnapped and murdered while

10.93 - Soldiers Ehud Roth and Ilan Levy are kid-

napped and murdered while hitchhilding in the Gaza Strip.

4.94 - Sec.-Lt. Shahar Simani, 20, is kidnapped and

murdered while hitchhilding to his base from Jerusalem.

later on the Jerusalem-Jericho road.

10.94 - Sgt. Nachshon Wachsman is Iddnapped while

hitchhilding and killed by his abductors during a rescue attempt by IDF commandos.

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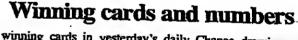


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Ticket number 514748 won NIS I million. Ticket 642721 won the car. Tickets 612011, 180648, 423911, 571654, 764478, 240066, and 664321

Winning NIS 1,000 were cards ending in 91321, 49480, 52974, 95416, 07554, 52414, 24385, 95942, 84162, 57121, 22396, 58189, 98702, 78112, 54847, 59239, 00543, 86619, and 22620. Cards ending in 610, 313, 659, and 704 won NIS 100. Those ending in 39, 03, 81, and 79 won NIS 30. Cards ending in 84 and 63 won NIS 20; and ending in 6 won



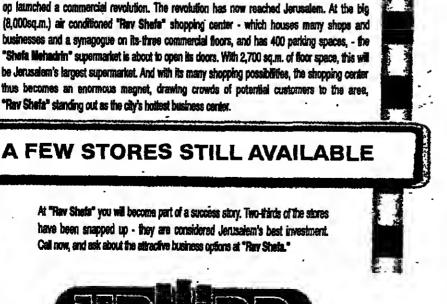
CORRECTION

Gerard Benhamou is the Israeli representative of the International Abolitionist Federation, and not as reported on April 7.

> TELLER WOLF in 1962, he lived with his family at 138 Hakovshim, Jaffa P.O. Box 942, Qu



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The Jeruszlam Post Friday, April 11, 1997

CONTEXT / ELI WOHLGELERNTER

A Beit Shemesh school promises never to forget

The 30-day mourning peri-od for the seven girls murdered by a Jordanian soldier at Naharayim ends today, after an extraordinary worldwide outpouring of emotion directed at the girls' families and fellow students of the AMIT Fuerss School in Beit Shemesh

"We were flooded from Dan to Eilar by many letters, sengs, and poems, "said Yehada Gubani, a 10th-grade teacher. "It aroused the feelings of the sindents, walking by and taking a look and reading, a feeling that the nation feels more or less the

And not just the nation. On a long table down the center of the hallway by the school's entrance lie those letters and poems that the students walk by daily and read. Stapled together in grade-school fashion, in handwriting that never quite stays, within the lines of their notebooks, are bereavement booklets from pupils of all ages, sent from all over the world.

At one end of the table, sitting under a plastic cover, are printed condolence messages that were sent to the Beit Shemesh site on the Internet: from Belgium, Germany, the US, Russia, South Africa, a message in Spanish from Mexico, and transliterated notes in French and Hebrew, all reflecting an obvious need to share this tragedy that touched so many.

"There are thousands of Jews, people you have never met, davening in memory of your daughters..." - USA.

"I can't understand, what is going on is this world. We are. very sorry, Hoping that this [sic] kids did not die for nothing is. impossible [sic] to believe that happens." - Brazil.

The Shomrim Society, representing the Jewish members of the New York City Police Department, extends its deepest sympathies to the families and friends of the seven girls who died so tragically. May the A-



The mother of Natali Alkalai, one of the seven Beit Shemesh schoolgirls murdered by a Jordanian soldier, lights a candle at a memorial service for the victims.

mighty comfort you among the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem,"

"I am so sorry about your loss. am a Palestinian residing in the US. I feel so bad about what happened. I hope he will be prosecuted to the maximum of the law. Give my sincere sympathies and condolences to the families and to the people of Israel." - David Yousef.

The students feel it. "It's moving that a lot of people are interested, and they're sharing in our grief - the whole world!" said Shlomo Danino. 16, a pupil at the school.

Almost everyone: One rightwing group from the US sent a message saying the girls were killed because they didn't believe in Jesus, and that they had it coming to them. But Danino understands that antisemitism exists in the world. and was not phased by that mes-

The pupils, meanwhile, have their own grief to express, and it is centered at the end of the hall near the staircase, where a pile of stones have been erected in a corner. Lit yahrzeit candles sit on top all asiant, while on the floor nine tall, seven-day can-

alongside four potted plants.
On the two walls in the corner behind the stooe memorial. black school construction paper has been hung, adorned with the pages from Yediot Aharonot teiling the tragedy; seven square boxes have been chalked off, each with the name of a victim. At the top is a verse from Psalms: They gather them-selves together against the soul of the righteous, and condemn innocent blood." (94:21)

A charity box has been attached to the wall, with a sign on it: Donations will be used to have a Sefer Torah written in the names of the seven students.

Yesterday, hours before last night's official ceremony held at the Beit Shemesh sports hall that was attended by hundreds of people, including National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon and Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi Yismel Lau, the students reflected on the tragedy. Some went to the cemetery, others talked it out in their classrooms.

They recalled the atmosphere we felt during that day," said Gubani. "The girls who took part [in the trip] remembered the hour. They said 'Oh, it is 11. This is the the hour we were shot by the Jordanian soldier.' I was amazed. I was shocked to hear it, and I was really sad." But they remain strong, Gubani

"The students who were on the trip said to me, 'We'll go on next year's trip. We'll do it. We won't let the Jordanian or any other terrorist disrupt our everyday lives."

And they will also preserve the memory of the seven girls. On a wall near the entrance to the school is more black construction paper, this one just for graffiti. It has been so layered with scribbles that it is now impossible to read anything at all, except one message at the bottom: "We won't forget you, you'll always be in our hearts." MISSING THE THE PARTY OF THE PA

US Conservative rabbis: We have had enough

Saying "We have had enough," the rabbis of the Conservative movement demanded the Knesset reject the pending conversion legislation, and distanced themselves from any MK who supports the measure.

"We are outraged at the latest attempt to deny full religious rights to the largest segment of world Jewry - an act that denies the pluralistic nature of Judaism and berrays the inclusive vision of Zionism," the Conservative movement's Rabbinical Assembly said in a resolution that gamered full support at the group's annu-

al meeting.

The legislation was not simply a "rabbinic" issue, but one that was keenly felt by the American Jewish population, said Rabbi Joel Meyers, director of the Rabbinical Assembly, which represents 1,400 rabbis around the world. It is a "symbol of whether or not diversity in Jewish life will be tolerated and legitimated, or whether in fact the very governing body of Israel, the Knesset, will determine that there is only one truth."

The unanimity among the Conservative rabbis was virnually unprecedented, said Rabbi Philip Spectre, the head

of the Masorti movement in Israel. "Other issues are hotly contested, and certainly on an issue about the govemment of Israel, our group, like others, has right and left, liberal and less-tiberal." Spectre said.

"Here, we had a united stand where everyone rallied around the cause," he said in a telephone interview from Boston, where the group was meeting this week.

The passion about the legislation spilled onto the streets, as 200 rabbis protested outside the Israeli consulate in Boston, and a small delegation met with Consul-General Dan Kyram.

In addition to seeking full equality, the rabbis called for government funding for Masorti institutions. They also vowed to immediately raise at least \$1 million to support their institutions and schools in Israel.

The Rabbinical Assembly's resolution came a week after the leadership of the Reform and Conservative movements called on their 1,800 member congregations in North America to refuse to participate in communal events that include MKs who support the conversion bill. Bobby Brown, Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's adviser on diaspora affairs, met with the Conservative rabbis on Wednesday.

Seder night, for rich and poor

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

"All that are hungry, let them come and eat," says the Hagaddah, and this year, municipalities, local neighborhood groups, and individuals are all pitching in to ensure everyone has a place to go for Pessah Seder.

In the country's three largest cities, welfare groups, absorption workers, and just plain individuals are busy planning how to accommodate singles and others without family to be with on Seder night.

Tel Avivians have a choice of the low to the high-priced spread, with Seders available ranging in price from NIS 5 to NIS 135 per person.

The city's welfare department has put up signs instructing those interested where to register for its Seders, being held in the city's seniors recreational center for the elderly. The regular fee is NIS 60 per person, NIS 90 per couple, and NIS 30 each for new immigrants in the country for five years or less.

The real steal is at the Hatikva Quarter's recreational center for the elderly, where a municipal official said the price is NIS 5 per person, since the local workers prepare the food themselves rather than relying on caterers.

Tel Aviv residents interested in something a little ritzier can join the

Seder at the City Hotel on Rehov Mapu, where participants will pay

NIS 135 per person for the evening The Great Synagogue on Allenby Street will be sponsoring a Seder, which traditionally attracts many of the city's homeless and other less fortunate souls, according to the

spokeswoman. In Jerusalem, Seder-bunters might want to try that being offered by the Lev Ha'ir Community Center at 42 Rebov Obel Moshe, near the Mahane Yehuda market, geared mainly for the neighborhood's many elderly local residents. Those interested should come by quickly to sign up and pay their NIS 25, as few

Down at the Western Wall Plaza, Yehiel Kozlovsky, who regularly offers Shabbat and other meals to those in need, will once again be putting on a mass Seder for what be calls "single people who need a place to come to, and wouldn't have a Seder otherwise."

Those interested in attending should call him at 5639629 to

reserve a place.
The Jerusalem Municipality's volunteers division in the city welfare department is also providing information for needy individuals lookmg for a place to go for Seder. Those interested should contact Dafna or Hagit at 6297003 Sundays through Thursdays between 9 and 2.

The municipality's absorption division is also once again running a subsidized Seder for new immigrants. The cost of the Seder is NIS 15 per person.

In Haifa, the municipality, in cooperation with the local religious council, will hold 12 Pessah Seders throughout the city, for some 1,300 people. The price of the Seder is NIS 25, NIS 15 for new immigrants and NIS 10 for children.

500 MILLION SHEKELS FOR ARAFAT!!!

According to a recent article in the Israeli Hebrew newspaper, Ha'aretz, israel has, since 1994, transferred at least NIS500 million into a secret bank account in Tel Aviv, in the name of the chief PLO terroristi

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Victims of Arab Terror In Israel P.O. Box 32103, Jerusalem, Tel./Fax. 02-582-1106

May G-d bless you and your loved ones, with a Hag Pessah Kasher Vesameah

WORLD ZIONIST ORGANIZATION

Explosion misses bus near Nablus

An explosive device went off near an Israeli bus at the southern exit

of Nablus yesterday. There were no injuries or damage. The bus was taking students to Od Yosef Hai Yeshiya in the Joseph's Tomb com-

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE IN VILNA TO MARK THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PASSING OF THE GAON OF VILNA Rabbi Elijah of Vilna

The forthcoming Succot, 1997, will mark the 200th anniversary of the passing of the Vilna Gaon. A Steering Committee, representing the Chief Rabbinate, government offices, the World Zionist Organization and Jewish organizations world-wide, has decided to convene an international conference in Vilna, which will focus on the Gaon's philosophy and thought. Participants in the Conference will include Chief Rabbis from Israel and the Diaspora, ministers, members of Knesset, members of the executive of the World Zionist Organization, Rashei

Yeshivot, members of Jewish organizations and communities, academic personalities from Israel and the Diaspora, and past inhabitants of Lithuania. We invite all who feel a reclose affinity to our Jewish past and our spiritual heritage, to participate in our Conference and join our pilgrimage to the Gaon's grave, and to take part in the events commemorating the glorious Jewish history of Vilna.

DATES From the evening of Thursday 19th June (14th Sivan) 1997 Until Monday 23rd June (18th Sivan) 1997

* A memorial service near the Vilna Gaon's grave

* A communal service near the Ponaar monument * A key event at the Municipal Theatre Building

LECTURES AND SHIURIM (IN HEBREW AND ENGLISH)

* HAGRA - Paving the Way in the Lithuanian method of study * HAGRA - Connection with Eretz Yisrael and its settlement in his teachings

* HAGRA - Philosophy, Kabbala and Mysticism * HAGRA - The Umqueness of his Halachic Decision-making

* HAGRA- And the Siddur * The history of Lithuanian Jewry

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Rabbi Y. CARMEL shlit"a, Rosh Kollel Eretz Hemda, Jerusalem

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For further information and registration contact: Yael or Yitzchak World Zionist Organization, Bureau for Cultural Services to Communities P.O.Box 92, Jerusalem Tel: 02-6202753/4/7 Fax: 02-6202594



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Ritual battle

The Reform and Conservative movements cash" scandal. Worse, the Orthodox monopoly of American Jewry are gearing up for the most serious hattle with the Israeli political system since the "Who is a Jew?" fight. The dehate over the conversion bill is less about "Who is a Jew?" than "Who is an Israeli?"

The "Who is a Jew?" battle was sparked when Israel's religious parties tried to amend the Law of Return in a way that was interpreted as disqualifying Reform and Conservative cooversions, and hy extension, the movements them-

That effort was defeated, and the status quo, which recognizes Reform and Conservative conversions abroad, remained intact. But petitions to the High Court of Justice to recognize conversions here by the local Reform and Conservative movements seem to have hackfired, spurriog the religious parties to try cemeoting the Orthodox monopoly oo cooversions ioto law.

The Reform and Conservative movements are understandably concerned that legalizing the existing discrimination against them in Israel makes a bad situation worse. As the Rahbinic Assembly of the Cooservative Movement resolved on Wednesday at its meeting in Boston, "We are outraged at the latest attempt to . deoy full religious rights to the largest segment of world Jewry - an act that denies the pluralistic nature of Judaism and betrays the inclusive visioo of Zionism." The resolutioo also called oo America's 1,400 Conservative rabbis to boycott any Knesset member who is "not in opposition" to the bill that just passed the Knesset in first reading. This formulation was specifically chosen to include towers of political courage such as MKs Ehud Barak, Yossi Beilin, Ephraim Sueh, and Shlomo Ben-Ami who were artfully absent from the vote.

While the boycott threat is fair game, and might make some MKs who receive financial support from abroad think twice, it also serves to highlight the lopsided balance of power on this issue. The loss of a speaking engagement is their legal challenges to the status quo, in hardly a match for the political cloud of religious exchange for the religious parties dropping the MKs, who rank the maintenance of Israel's conversion bill. Orthodox monopoly as a top political, religious, .. and even budgetary imperative.

What galls the Reform and Conservative movements most is the realization that, beyond the real but solvable religious differences, they are up against a monopoly that is beating away competitioo as vigorously as any closed-shop union or public utility. It is like fighting the Israel Electric Corporation.

Like any monopoly, Israel's Orthodox mooopoly stifles initiative, reduces "consumer" choice, and is prone to corruption and insolence - as demonstrated by the recent "conversion for

Sir, - In her article of April 1, "Pain of those empty seats,"

Heleo Motro refers to Jaffa as "an

According to Zev Vilnay. (The

Guide to Israel) Jaffa has been an

important scaport and gateway to

Jerusalem sioce antiquity. The

Sir. - The Jossi Berger

Holocaust Study Center of

Emunah College will sponsor its

Yom

V'Hagvurah commemoration

program on Sunday, May 4 at 4

p.m. at the college, 104 Derech Beit Lehem, Baka, Jerusalem.

This year's program will focus on

Sir, - It has been suggested that

Washington is interested in

putting together a package deal, in

which the Palestinians will pro-

nounce a cessation of terror and

violence, and Israel will undertake

a freeze on building in the territo-

ries, including the suspension of building on Har Homa, for a six-

month period. Incredibly, this was

supported on the BBC by a leader

of Israel's main opposition party, former minister Ephraim Sneh.

On no account should Israel

accept this proposal, as it confuses

and equates two entirely different

issues: the question of violence

and the prejudicing of final-settle-

The cessation of Palestinian vio-

lence against Israeli soldiers and

civilians (be it in the form of ter-

rorist attacks, petrol bombs and

stonings, kidnappings or knifings)

is oot a subject for negotiation,

nor a concession by Arafat for

which Israel must respond with

further significant concessions of

its own. The cessation of acts of

violence, threats of violence in the

future, and incitement to violence.

is not a bargaining point at any

stage of negotiations, but a pre-

condition of the peace process as a

whole. Giving up the option of

ment talks.

old Arab town.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Hashoah

town belooged to the tribe of Dan

and later, under King Solomon, it

became Jerusalem's seaport.

Vilnay also mentions the

Maccabees as reigning in this

town. Like the rest of the land of

Israel, Jaffa was conquered by the

Greeks, the Romans, the

BERGEN-BELSEN

the liberation of Bergen-Belsen.

The public is invited to this

English program and a special

invitatioo is extended to Bergen-

Belsen survivors who will meet

Speakers will be Rev. Leslie

Hardman, Jewish Chaplain with

the British Liberating Forces;

FINAL STATUS

lence was an a priori condition of

starting the peace process.

Without an unconditional under-

taking to abstain from violence,

there would have been no Oslo

agreement in the first place. We do

not have to buy freedom from vio-

new concessions and gestures of

goodwill, at every difficult stage in the negotiations. The formula

"no settlements and no terrorism"

is a thinly disguised reward for the

cynical Palestinian use of violence

as a negotiating tactic, and must

The only logical argument put

forward for a freeze on settlement

in the territories and Jerusalem is

that it preempts the final agree-

ment. But agreement on the final

status involves more than the ful-

filling of Arab ambitions. The

future of all Jewish settlements in

Judea, Samaria and the Gaza

Strip, and the final borders

between the Palestinian entity and

Israel; are - together with other

significant issues - also matters

for resolution in the final stages.

The surrender of territories (code-

named "redeployment") in areas

A and B, envisaged in Oslo II, pre-

judges these crucial issues.

Redeployment is irreversible, and

terrorism and other forms of vio- subverts Israel's negotiating posi-

be rejected out of hand.

lence over and over again, with

after the program.

controls aspects of Israeli life that should not be in government hands except in the most perfunctory way - such as marriage, divorce, and conversion

To most Israelis, however, the role of the (all-Orthodox) rabbinate and the existence of religious parties is a fact of political and daily life. And as grating as that is to many of them, they do not view Reform and Conservative Judaism as a legitimate alternative, but an American import that does not speak to the Israeli experience. Clearly, the synagogue they don't go to is Orthodox.

Ironically, the institutionalization of Orthodoxy in Israel may have soured Israelis on the Reform and Conservative movements, too, "Secular" Israeli live in a Jewish country, speak Hebrew, live by a Jewish calendar - culturally, at work, and in the home - and are suspicious of anyone that seeks to mold their organic form of Judaism into an institutional framework.

Attitudes can change, and it certainly would not burt for the Reform and Conservative movemeots to help provide Israelis with a wider range of educational and congregational choices. At the eod of the day, however - and here we get to the Israeli hobbyhorse - the only way to make a real impact is for these movements to vote with their feet.

If more of the best and the brightest of American rabbis moved to Israel and set up shop, Israelis might begin to appreciate the meaning and potential of Jewish plurality by seeing it in actioo. The Rabbinical Assembly, on this score, is to be commeoded for resolving, as part of their response to the conversion bill, to "educate their congregants about ... the mitzva of aliya." In the meantime, the best immediate resolution of this standoff is the solution that Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, Natan Sharansky's Yisrael Ba'aliya Party, and The Third Way are all pursuing. Their idea is for the Reform and Conservative movements to drop

While this is an eminently sensible stopgap measure, it is critical that its backers include something else in the package: a commitment to formolate a joint standard for cooversion acceptable to all three movements. A good person to tap to get the ball rolling would be Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein, who happens to be an observant Jew who also is respected among American Jewry. Netanyahu and all the non-religious parties need to act responsibly, oot so much to advance the Reform and Conservative movements in Israel as to prevent a growing split within the Jewish people.

Crusaders and the Arah invaders

Jaffa an old town? Most certain-

ly. But calling it "Arab" seems to

me to have more to do with propa-

Hannah Greenfield, survivor, and

Sima Shurkowitz, survivor, Rena

Quint, President of the Study

Ceoter, herself a survivor of

Bergen-Belsen, will make wel-

tion in the final stages. For us, this

is oo less vital than the marginal

expansion of existing settlemeots,

or building in Har Homa, is for the

Palestinians. If Israel is to consid-

er going beyond the Oslo agree-

ment, in order not to foreclose

Palestinian options, then it must

also insist that its own positions in

these talks be safeguarded. The

only proper quid pro quo for an

Israeli freeze on Har Homa would

be Palestinian agreement to a sim-

ilar freeze on all further redeploy-

ments in areas B and C. The only

fair and equitable package deal for

age, there is a dariger that the final

settlement will, God forbid, be a

fateful step towards that disas-

trous final solution which many of

us believe is the Arabs' true goal

GILBERT HERBERT

in this dubious peace process.

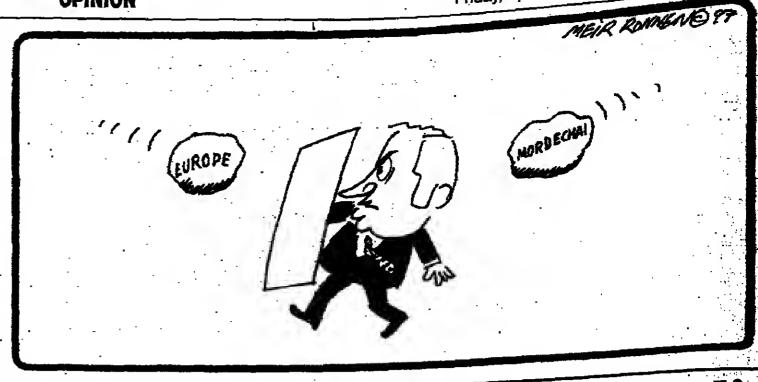
Jerusalem.

LEA DE LANGE

HELEN GROSS

JANE KLITSNER

before the Jews returned in '48.



Apathetic Mr. Average Israeli

YOSEF LAPID

Then the prime minister goes to the US and talks to an audience of Christian Evangelists while avoiding a gathering of Reform Jews, you don't know whether to

laugh or cry. But it's no joke. It's a tragicomic hyprodoct of the process of haredization that is eating away at the enlightened, progressive, democratic and open face of our

Another example: A committee set up hy the government to enhance Jewish values on radio has proposed that Shelly Yehimovich's It's All Talk be presented one day a week by a "tradi-tional" host, on another day by an Orthodox one, and on a third day by a haredi. Generously, the committee left half the week to the sec-

Or take the conversion bill. The four aspirants to the Labor Party leadership - Generalissimo Barak, Ideologue Ben-Ami, "Mister Clean" Sneh, and "Good Boy" Beilm - came out with every kind of excuse to explaio their absence from the disgraceful Knesset vote.
Principles? Who cares about

those, when all eyes are on the

future, wheo the haredi vote is likely to have a certain impact. Meretz has been going on about this "act of betrayal" as if they didn't cooperate with Shas during the Rabin and Peres administrations "because peace is more important than anything else" - at least according to Shulamit Aloni,

combating religious coercioo before she went astray. Haim Ramon did stay to vote against the law - hut then, he didn't

who knew a thing or two about

have anything to lose. Back when

he had something to gain, he was quick to sell Shas a pound of flesh from a decomposing Histadrut.
So much for betrayal by the Left. Betrayal by the Right? No one even mentions it, as though it

was destined that the successors of Jabotinsky - that secular liber-al and out-and-out anti-cleric would become the blind followers of obscurantist rabbis selling talismans, prophesying the painful demise of the "clowns" at Habima, and cursing "rabbit-eat-

We might have come to terms with them, had we seen a bit of mutual cooperation, each side conceding a little. But that was never part of the deal.

It doesn't end there. Over the past few years a massive haredi army has mushroomed, sustained predominantly by the secular tax-payer. Its members don't hold jobs or serve in the IDF. Their trade is their faith, and their faith is their excuse.

Tens of thousands squeeze into yeshivas; only a tiny percentage

The haredim are imposing a lifestyle we don't want on us? Don't blame them

ing" kibbutzniks.

If, on the social values scale, Scandinavia rates 0 and the Taleban in Afghanistan 100, then we began at 30, have moved up to 50, and are well on our way to 70. This haredi nibbling away at our lives has slowly gotteo us used to draconian measures and diverse humiliations undreamt of hy enlightened people in open soci-

Druze supervisors go out hunting for businesses open oo Shabbat, secular citizens pay for the kashering of products they don't care about, rabbinical courts ahuse women who apply for a divorce; there is no public transport on our one day off work.

To all these decrees we have surrendered, even though they are unjust, unnecessary and unwant-

deserve the title of talmid hacham. The rest are God's

Disconnected from the world, educated to despise Zionism and the state, sinking into condescending ignorance and obediently serving their religious leaders, this gargantuan, unenlightened force goes on amassing political and public power.

No longer satisfied with the crumbs a corrupt secular governmeot has used to bribe them, they sense their time has come, and have gone from the defensive to the attack - "converting" secolar Israelis to Judaism, imposing their lifestyle on the system as a whole.

And so what if, in the process, the vast majority of American Jewry gets alienated? It means nothing to them.

The secular population worries about our existential struggle with the Palestinians; meanwhile, the state for which it fought slips out of its hands.

We are no longer surprised to see hotels built on stilts (to leave an escape route for the souls underground); we oo longer ask ourselves why autopsies are restricted, contrary to accepted procedure in the Western world.

We've stopped protesting about expensive kosher meat being imported instead of cheap nonkosher meat, we don't jump up when the Knesset approves, on first reading, a bill that says if your name is Cohen or Katz or Kahana, you can't marry a divorcee - at the end of the 20th century, no less!

The haredim may be using democracy to force a lifestyle n doesn't want on the secular public, but they aren't to hlame for what's going on. It's apathetic Mr. Average Israeli, who bellyaches but doesn't actually do any-

It's the secular parties, who'll sell their souls to enlist the haredim in their fight against their secular rivals. It's our intelligentsia, with their

fond memories of Grandpa from Lodz or Marrakesh, who stand unresisting as the waves of Khomeinism engulf us.

And it's the Conservative and Reform Jews in the US, who never made a serious effort to put down roots in Israel that could have served as a counterweight to Orthodox dominance.

The author is senior editorial writer for Ma ariv.

The Great Conversion Controversy

Tnity. Brotherhood. Peace. These are some of the buzzwords being bandied about in the Great Conversion Controversy now sweeping the

If you support the right of Reform and Conservative rabbis to perform conversions here in Israel, then you are in favor of coexistence, a peace-lover, and a true champion of freedom.

If, however, you dare to favor retaining the status quo, in which only conversions performed under Orthodox, halachic guidelines are permitted, then you automatically become some hideous ogre of primitivism, an extreme propocent of oppressive theocracy who wants to force his hrand of religion down the oext guy's spiritual

Well, this is one rabbi who rescots all the ugly labels being plastered on the observant community, just because we have the audacity to believe that the Jewish standards in force for 3,000-plus years ought to remain in place in

My ties to the past do not make me archaic; nor does my defense of Halacha make me an autocratic ayatollah.

For while it sounds so simple to brand traditionalists as "non-pluralists" and "religious fanatics." anyone who gets past the plati-tudes and looks at the issues themselves may draw quite a different conclusion. Consider:

 Reform Jews now accept the patrilineal definition of Jewish lineage, whereby the child of a Christian mother and Jewish father is considered Jewish. By "changing the rules in the

STEWART WEISS

middle of the game." tampering with the accepted formula for Who is a Jew," the movement has rendered thousands of young Jews ineligible to marry other Jews, who still cling to the traditional definitions.

Does this promote unity among our people?

The Reform movement does oot require - in fact, often discourages - the issuing of a get or

practices at virtually every significant juncture. Ritual circumcision is oo longer

required, and sometimes eveo discouraged; homosexuality is accepted as a valid lifestyle, with gay synagogues and rabbis openly welcomed into the movement;

and the "uniform" of Judaism from kippa to tefillin, not to mention kashrut - is discarded in favor of whatever garb happens to be in

I'm tired of being labeled an extreme proponent of oppressive theocracy

religious divorce.

Thus, when a woman receives her civil divorce and remarries without having received a Jewish divorce, childreo born to her subsequently are balachically mamzerim, forbiddeo to marry other Jews. This further fragments the Jewish people, creating two camps whose members cannot marry one another. Is this brotherhood?

- A child born to Christian parents and adopted by Jews is auto-matically considered Jewish by the standards of the Reform, which has summarily decided he need not undergo any conversion at all. Such children, halachically noo-Jewish, are often never eveo told of their true lineage. They ofteo find themselves placed in excruciating situations years later.

Does this promote peace between all Jews? · Reform Jodaism has chosen to

when the truth comes out.

part ways with traditional Jewish

ogue.
Even belief in God is oo longer

a giveo among Reform clergy. There are Reform rabbis who openly question whether God exists, and who see to it that all mention of God is excised from their prayer books!

Must I accept and condone these deviations from Judaism in the name of "peace," even if I believe they will destroy our faith?

the noo-traditionalist streams of Judaism created a Renaissance of Jewish commitment in the countries where they already thrive, I would have to be more hesitant in my criticism of them.

But the opposite is true: Among non-Orthodox Jews in the Diaspora, the twin cancers of assimilation and intermarriage are spreading at horrific rates, decimating Jewish communities and causing the worldwide Jewish popolation outside of Israel to

Not even "legislating in" whole groups of con-lews through patrilinealism or simplifying conversions has stemmed the losses. Is this the model we want to

establish here in Israel? At the heart of the matter is whether we believe that the times shape the Torah, or that the Torah

must shape the times. If it is the former, then the prac-

tices of Jewish observance are destined to float perpetually. through the air, blown this way and that by whatever winds of cult or culture are blowing at the momeot,

But if it is the latter, then we are anchored to our law, our land, and our religious life hy a common thread of tradition that stretches from Sinai to the end of time.

With that thread, we weave a tapestry of history, peoplehood, and spiritual commonality upparalleled in the annals of human achievement.

The picture we are painting takes great inspiration, great dili-gence and hard work by every artist of every generation who lends his hand to it. Mud will often get thrown by those within and without who do oot understand.

In the end, however, only an ardnous, determined and collective effort from a people united in their true tradition can create the masterpiece that is the Jewish people.

The writer directs Midreshet V Emunah Women's Torah Seminary in Jerusalem and the Jewish Outreach Center in Ra'anana.

Israel to consider would be: final-POSTSCRIPTS status talks oow, a freeze on set-

tlements, and a freeze on all fur-THE TENDENCY of Chinese ther redeployment. This, of course, depends on a prior condiparents to give their children simtion: the unequivocal and demonple, commonly used names is strable commitmeet on the part of wreaking havoc within the nation's bureaucracy, leading Arafat and the Palestinian police to chase down the wrong Authority to reject violence as an option, and to combat it vigoroussuspects and incooveniencing ly. If we do oot insist on this linkeveryone. So complain China's census tak-

ers, who in their last survey discovered more than 4,600 people in Beijing sharing the name Zhang Li and a similar oumber all named Zhang Ying. In Shenyang, the census takers

found more than 4,800 people named Liang Shuzhen, and more

than 3,000 each named, respectively, Wang Wei, Li Wei and Li

Not only is this inconvenient for everyone, but it also causes confusion in household registries, personnel management, telephone directories, school records and police work," a report said,

The customary "100 Family Surnames" have tended to predominate in China, with Wang, Zhang, Li, Chen and Liu being among the most common.

They should look on the hright side, though: no one named David

SOME OF the toughest cops in Manila are pounding a different kind of beat these days.

It's strictly ballroom when the men and women of Manila's Western Police District gather to unwind after a day chasing CTOOKS.

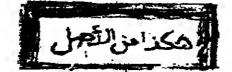
The cha-cha and tango provide perfect antidote to stress, as well as a workout that leaves everyone sweaty but smiling.

This ballroom dancing is not only an exercise but a form of releasing tension and a veoue where they can learn art and culture," said police chief Colonel

Avelino Razon, who came up with the idea of introducing the 3,000-strong officers in his district to the foxtrot, numba and

Policemen used to resort to cards and booze when they got off duty, leaving them and just broke and drunk but fired and unfit as well, Razon said.

That was my big problem how to get them hooked on some thing that would make them sweat so that they could have their regular work-out," he



Property of view, I told myself wryly, reading conflicting press assessments of this week's White House meeting between President Clinton and Prime Minister Neumyahu.

37 The Jerusalen

The secular population is about our existential some

the Palestinians, meaning state for which it fought to

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We've stopped processing

Those who predicted/hoped that Clinton would pressure Netanyahu described the meeting as a failure when he didn't while those who had feared the meeting might cause a breakdown in US-Israel relations saw Clinton's announcement that there is a good chance of Israel-Palestinian talks resuming as a sign of success.
As I said, it all depends on your

point of view. The same holds true for the political debate here following the collapse of our relations with the Palestinian Authority.

Some people are impressed by Yasser Arafat's emulation of Joshua, his marching seven times around the walls of Har Homa blaring the trumpets of the seven anti-Israel votes he secured in international forums.

Others point to the fact that despite those seven resolutions in the UN Security Council and General Assembly, the Islamic Conference, its Jerusalem Committee, the Arab League foreign ministers' meeting, the Conference of Non-Aligned Nations, and the Gulf Cooperation Council - the walls of Har Homa are still standing.

Arafat couldn't bring them tumbling down because the US exereised its veto in the Security Council. And America's siding. MOSHE ZAK

with Israel means more than all the resolutions Arafat could ever

The longstanding difference of opinion between Israel and the US over settlement is no secret. It didn't begin with Har Homa, but immediately after the Six Day War. The width of the gap between us on this issue tends to conform directly to the level of settlement activity at

Washington with a shopping list just days before the Clinton-Netanyahu meeting.

THE administration is making sure no one gets the impression that Israel is isolated. It knows this might well encourage Arab military adventurism of the kind the Palestinian Authority's Imad Faluji implied when he told a for-

eign reporter that blood in the

streets would teach Netanyahu the

lesson Rabin lcamed - that

Israelis' personal security is in

With both its Security Council

Those who cite the international

acclaim Israel reaped following

the signing of the Oslo accords

and bewail the plummeting of our

popularity since, forget that when Israel wanted this great sympathy

translated into action - changes in

our commercial agreement with the European Union, for example

- it came up against a brick wall.

lution that brought us real harm

was the one equating Zionism

with racism - and it was adopted

two months after Israel and Egypt

We also forget that the UN reso-

veto and its announcement of

additional military aid, therefore, the US was saying: Israel isn't on

Palestinian hands.

its own.

Some might wish it was, but wishful thinking doesn't constitute reality

any one time.

But this difference of opinion has never affected Israel's basic understanding with Washington, in December 1975. Yitzhak Rabin refused to accept a message from Gerald Ford asking him to

stop the cabinet adopting a resolution against the removal of settlers from Kedumim in Samaria. And in 1992, Yitzhak Shamir refused to accept George Bush's condition of halting settlement in return for \$10b. in US loan guarantees. On neither occasion was the basic US-Israel understanding harmed.

This time was no different. The Clinton administration knows not to allow a difference of opinion with Israel over settlement to interfere with its basic understanding regarding our security.

It was no accident, therefore, that Defense Mioister Yitzhak Mordechai was invited to go to agreed on a significant withdrawal in Sinai. The General Assembly even rejected Camp David.

The UN has never been a friend; but we have never taken that to signal our isolation. There is life beyond the UN.

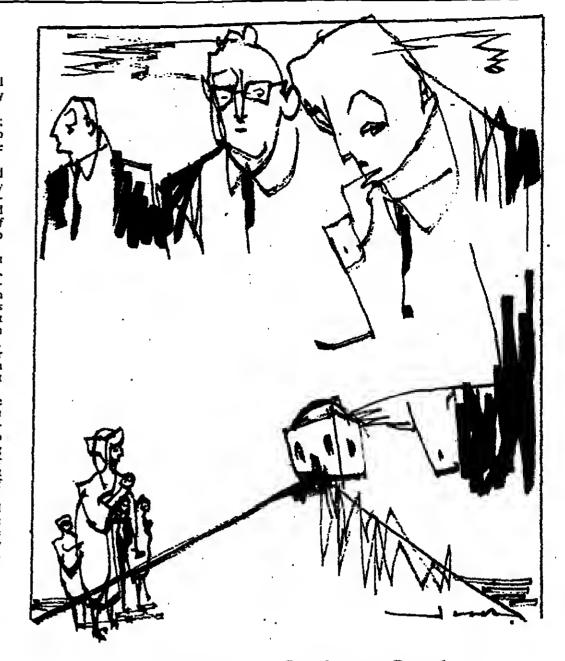
The Conference of Non-Aligned Nations, meeting in Delhi, may have called for a freeze in relations with Israel; but India invited Netanyahu to visit because of growing trade between the two

The Islamic Conference might have called for a boycott of Israel, but Turkey's Islamic prime minister, Necmettin Erbakan, met with Foreign Minister David Levy this week, and the Turkish parliament ratified a trade agreement with Israel by a wide majority. Equally, the EU may fulminate against Har Homa, but after Netanyahu returned from Washington, he went straight off to Holland and Italy.

So could Israel be said to be politically isolated? No. Even Egypt's Hosni Mubarak understands that he cannot hope to implement the resolution calling on Arab League members to sever relations with Israel. He knows it would cost Egypt any chance of influencing the peace process.

Isracl is half of the Arab-Israel conflict, and no important nation wants to cut itself out of a possible role in resolving it - not, at any rate, while the world's only superpower is behind us.

The writer, a veteran journalist, comments on current affairs.



Break this untenable pattern

By now the pattern's clear.

Israel takes some minor step - opens a nunnel, builds on a Jerusalem hill - and the Palestinians, frustrated by their inability to get immediate sovereignty over East Jerusalem and all the territories, let loose.

Arafat gives the green light to Hamas, allows a spate of violent demonstrations, and calls on the world to gang up on the beastly Zionists.

The Americans then get scared they've got a lot riding on this peace process - and summon Netanyahu to Washington.

The result Israel gets slammed for having gramitously provoked the Palestinians, while Arafat gets away with a reminder that terror is a no-no.

That's the pattern, and from Israel's perspective, it stinks. Just look at the statement President Clinton made after his this week with Netanyahu. Israel, he said, has got to stop all building and land appropriation in the territories; accelerate the development of Gaza's port and air facilities, and have had to have bombed that air-

MICHAEL OREN

in Jerusalem. And the Palestinians must wage a serious war against

A bit unbalanced, iso't it? repeated commitments, all duly position, break the pattern? Yes,

provide more Palestinian housing field, or a civilian neighborhood next to it. It didn't, of course, and for that reason the Americans posicion is unconscionable, and Israel's currently untenable. Where is the meotion of Arafat's Can Israel extricate itself from this

Move rapidly and doggedly toward that final agreement Netanyahu's now advocating

but not easily.

broken, to wage war on terrorism in the past? Why is there oo reference to the Palestinian covenant (yet to be amended), and the non-extradition of wanted terrorists from the PA to Israel?

How about the many "unilateractions taken by the Palestinians, not the most insignificant of which was the totally unanthorized construction of Dehaniya airfield in Gaza?

To place itself on a moral par with the Palestinians, Israel would

It involves moving rapidly and doggedly toward that final agreement Netanyahu's now advocating. And doing that means putting all other considerations - settlement expansion, Har Homa - on a back-burner, and persuading the Americans to sponsor the intensified negotiations.

means throwing the Palestinians a few crumbs, like Dehaniya and housing projects, so Israel can enter those talks while still holding 90 percent of the ter-

Efforts must also be made to sign on other interested parties like the Egyptians and the Jordanians, and a few Gulf and North African states as well.

As for Israel's own Labor party, it could be invited to join the Likud to help maintain a consensus at home and to resist outside pressures.

In or out of government, though, Labor is certain to support any final agreement, even if it doesn't result in an enlarged Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital.

None of this is simple, admittedly. In addition to the rejectionist genies Arafat has again let out of the bottle, there are potent forces on Israel's Right who still dream of freeing themselves from Oslo, at practically any price.

Netanyahu is often accused of not steering a steady course, of failing to project direction. Now he can - toward a US-mediated tinal agreement with the Palestinians. In the process, he can break this untenable pattern.

The writer lectures on the Middle East.

Darwioism. Give me judges

who won't behave like gods, but

like human beings in the good,

old-fashioned sense - who will

punish murderers harshly,

whether their victims are old

ladies on crossroads, or anyone

Let the life of an old lady cross-

ing a Tel Aviv street be worth as

much as a eigarette butt. But it has

almost become anti-Zionist to care

A good police force, with good will (if scant means), a good sher-

iff, a wise judge, these can make a

But as long as dying in a car accident is shameful, the whole

bollow show will amount to noth-

ing but another festival of hypo-

criocal communal sobbing, and

The writer's lotest book,

Another Love Story, was pub-lished recently; his Land of Two

Promises, written jointly with Arab novelist Emil Habib, is cur-

rently being translated into sever-

about other people.

the killing will go on.

al languages.

difference.

The sins of the fathers

The soul that sinneth, it shall . die: the son shall not bear the iniquity of the father with him, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son with him; the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him. - Ezekiel, 18:20.

n the aftermath of the Apropo bombing, the High Court once again legitimized the destruction of a dead terrorist's home.

Moussa Ranimat, the suicide bomber from Kafr Tsurif, oear Hebron, lived there with his wife and four children. They are the ones who are being puoished.

In its decision, the court justified this barefaced reprisal on the basis of its deterrent effect. This has been its usual line - the iunovation lies in the dissent.

Justice Mishael Cheshin's minority opinion was a clarior call for a return to basic Jewish values. It deserves to be made required reading in our schools. It is a safe guess that it will remembered when the formalisoc formulacons of the two majority justices. Court President Aharon Barak and Justice Eliezer Goldberg, are safely buried. The soul that sinneth, it shall

die," quoted Cheshin from Ezekiel (18:20). "The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father with him, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son with him; the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wiekedness of the wicked shall be upon him." He noted there was a similar sentiment summarized from the Law of Moses" in II Kings (14:6).

Cheshin stands proudly on those values which are our values, the values of a state that is Jewish, free, and democratic... values [that] will lead us straight to the pristine days of our peo-

Clearly, the bulldozers cannot destroy the bome of the terrorist (who is already dead) without also destroying the home of his widow

"By that deed," continued Cheshin, "we will punish the wife and the children, even though they did not sin. Such an act should not be committed in our environs."

In concluding his opinion, Cheshin pointed out his opposioon to destroying homes as an anni-terrorist measure in a long

line of cases, but added that

ALLAN E. SHAPIRO

"What I have said now, I have not said in the past. I went through a great shaking-up until I got to [this] point. That is the Torah I learned from

my teachers, and that is the Torah in my hands. I cannot do other-

Perhaps it is because Cheshin's words are so forceful and direct that those of Barak and Goldberg appear so weak and convoluted by comparison.

Barak admitted that destroying a. dead terrorist's home injures the innocent, but said the purpose is

When we destroy a terrorist's home, we destroy our own Jewish values

not punishment, but deterrence. Bot he admitted, There is no complete certainty that this measure is really effective." In fact, as Barak implies, there is substantial expert opinion to the contrary.

Goldberg, the other majority justice, adds that the court can't and won't uodertake scientific research on the subject. "From my point of view," he said, "the opinion that a certain deterrence exists cannot be nullified; that is enough for me not to interfere in the opinion of the military commander."

EVERY additional suicide bombing adds doubt to the deterrent value of the bome destruction policy. And this latest bombing stands the policy on its head. Far from being a deterrent, the

expectation that his dwelling would be destroyed may have served as an incentive for the Apropo bomber. According to reports, Ranimat

was apolitical; so was his family. He was also deeply in debt. The motive for his act may largely have been financial, and the remuoeration his family would receive through the terrorist infrastructure was surely calculated with the anticipated destruction of the family dwelling in mind.

In short, the bombing may well have been an act of desperacion, Ranimat's attempt to provide his family with adequate housing onencumbered by debt.

Farfetched? Perhaps no less so than the "opinion of the military commander," on which the court's majority relied. Who knows, indeed, whether the military commander has an opinion; more likely, home-destroying has been a matter of policy, handed down through the chain of command. It bears all the eartharks of a bureaucratic organizational product.

All too often, the bureaucratic response to repeated failure is: Upgrade the technology, and do

The army must be cient at destroying housing. But there is no sign of improvement in its ability to deter suicide bombers. Indeed, that is oot an area in which military expertise helps much.

Suppose the military commander of the Hebron area, in which Ranimat's village is located, does have an opinion. What is there in his military training and experience that makes his opinioo par-

ticularly valuable? It is worth recalling that the practice of destroying homes has its origins in British reprisal policy in Ireland in the 1920s. It became part of our law through the legacy of the British Mandate. How effective was it in Ireland?

In our conflict with the Palestinians, it may be signifieantly counterproductive. It serves to aggravate the fear that burns in the guts of Palestinian bostility: that our ultimate aim is to turn them all into refugees, to destroy their homes and render them a homeless people.

Why should we continue to contribute to our own demonization?

The writer is a legal and politi-

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With gratitude to Hashem, and with overwhelming joy, we announce the marriage of our grand-daughter. Rochy Samet, daughter of Rabbi and Mrs. Yehuda Samet, to Shabsi Zimmerman, son of Rabbi and Mrs. Bentsion Zimmerman.

May their great love for Israel and their dedication to Torah studies in Israel bring them much joy and happiness during their lifetime.

With love from their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Walker Lawrence NY & Miami FL

The very morning the press carried details of a longawaited plan aimed at curbing road accidents, a Magen David ambulance inched its way through Tel Aviv's Kikar Hamedina to nearby Ichilov Hospital. The spirited Israeli drivers in its way fought zealously to stop it reaching its destination.

Someone might have been dying in that ambulance - but so what This nation, clustering in selfrighteous national mourning when soldiers get killed in a helicopter accident, seems determined to make the road its own highway to

That ambulance, by the way, was real, but let it also be a metaphor.

In Israel, dying in a car accident is simply too degrading. Lucky families whose dear suddenlydeparted happen to be soldiers on leave can have the army declare them "killed while serving," because that is bearable, honorable - certainly nothing to be ashamed of It is wby so many thousands have been added to the toll of Israelis killed in war.

We love to bold national bereavement festivals where we present death as something grand, operatic; but we don't much care for the small, ugly, nameless deaths that occur on the roads.

We neglect the families of those unlucky enough not to go out in a blaze of glory, in fact we make them feel almost guilty. More than 20,000 have died thus to date, and no one has taken even token

True, it gets hot here, and we're restless types. Basically we can't comprehend why anybody else should be driving or walking along the same road we are.

Rank Colored State of the Colo Taxes are high, and we get angry; and to prevent us killing our poor wives while watching. TV, the police and the courts have made it easier for us to let off steam another way.

Better to kill an old lady crossing the street than to kill one's wife. That old lady is a stranger, and anyway, she's lived long enough. And you're looking, at most, at your license suspended for a month. Kill your wife, and

YORAM KANIUK

The good, the bad, and the ugly deaths

you could get jailed for life! If you throw a cigarette butt on the street, you now face a NIS 50,000 fine; but kill a child crossing the road, and you might get away with a short, suspended jail sentence in addition to having to cough op a few hundred shekels.

arrange yet another festival.

been festively mourning only the chosen dead, because of all those anonymous anti-heroes getting done for on the roads, because we like to make a festival out of calamity, the government felt it ought to Shiny police helicopters and

Better to kill an old lady crossing the street than to kill one's wife

"Injustice is preferable to disor-der," said Goethe. Most Israelis will go along with that. And they are encouraged to vent their aggression, which is all that remains of

their dream of building a civilized society with a constitution. Killing an old lady or blocking an ambulance's way keeps your typical Israeli from becoming too wild - which makes this type of behavior virtually mandatory.

Then there's the question of imagination. Since today's Israeli has none, those Tel Aviv drivers who fought that ambulance couldn't see themselves one day maybe lying in that selfsame vehicle.

BECAUSE of mounting criticism, because of the way we've advocates of a misunderstood

hundreds of policemen on motorbikes operated the latest sophisticated toys, caught a few speed freaks on some well-known roads, and will take them to

The court will suspend their licenses for a couple of months, they'll be fined a few hundred shekels, and Avigdor Kahalani. possibly the only sheriff in the world who appears on entertainment shows, will stage another extravaganza, and say: "You see, I have done something!"

But it is all just a show. Give me 100 plaioclothesmen, and no helicopters. Give me jndges who do not act as the

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German court blames Iran in Berlin killing

News agencies

BERLIN — A German court ruled yesterday that Iran's top leaders were behind the assassination of an Iranian-Kurdish opposition figure in Berlin, shaking the foundations of Germany's policy of close ties and contioued trade with the Teheran regime.

Within hours, Bonn recalled its ambassador to Iran and ordered the expulsion of four Iranian diplomats. In a statement, the Foreign Ministry said the verdict indicated "a flagrant breach of international law" by Iran.

Iran also recalled its ambassador to Bonn for consultations, Iranian television reported.

The German court convicted two men of murder and two of being accessories to murder in the Sept. 17, 1992 killing of Kurdish leader Sadiq Sarafkindi and three of his colleagues in the Mykonos

Presiding Judge Frithjof Kubsch said, however, that the men acted not on their own, but on orders from Teheran. "The Iranian political leadership is responsible," he said, adding that its goal was to

eliminate political dissidents.

Judge Kubsch had said in his ruling that the assassination of the four Kurdish leaders ordered by a secret special operations committee whose members included Iran's president, its religious leader, intelligence minister and the head of foreign policy.

He stopped short of explicitly naming Iranian President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani and religious leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, who had been accused by prosecu-tors of ultimate responsibility for the attack in Berlin's Mykonos restaurant

The verdict marked the first time that a European court had clearly attributed political responsibility for any of the dozens of assassinations of Iranian opposition figures abroad since the Islamic revolution in 1979.

Iran quickly dismissed the ver-dict as political, and withdrew its own amhassador for consulta-"This accusation is oot true,"

Akbar Nateq-Nouri told reporters during a visit to Moscow.
"We have asked the German

Iranian parliamentary speaker Ali

leadership many times if there is any evidence and if so to present it to us. But until now they haveo't The trial had a political tinge."

Operators at the Iranian Foreign Ministry in Teheran said no one was available to take phone calls, and an embassy spokesman in Bonn said they had no comment.

While Washington has sought to isolate Iran as a state sponsor of terrorism. Germany and other European Union countries have for years pursued a "critical dialogue" policy, cootinuing to do profitable business with Iran while discussing issues of terrorism and human rights.

Washington, which has sought to isolate Iran for sponsoring such terrorist acts, called on European government to move to "choke off trade with Iran." "The 'critical dialogue' has oot succeeded in moderating Iran's behavior," State Department spokesman Nicholas Burns said

There is oo evidence that the 'critical dialogue' has made a dif-

The Foreign Ministry said Germany will "not participate for the foreseeable future"in that poli-



An anti-Iranian government protester demonstrates outside the Berlin court.

cy, and said it was in close contact decision would be. with its EU partners. It was Germany is Iran's higgest unclear what the impact of the Western trade partner, with trade

exceeding 3 billion marks (\$1.8 hillioo) last year, and had been one of the strongest proponents in

the EU for keeping the controversial "critical dialogue" policy

Floodwaters threaten North Dakota

FARGO, North Dakota (AP) - People in North Dakota's largest city stepped up their flood-fighting yesterday, rushed by a prediction that the swollen Red River will crest more than a foot higher than expected.

Volunteers met at the Fargo Civic Center, where they were stuffed ooto buses and hauled to riverside neighborhoods to add more sandbags to dikes that residents had believed were high enough to bold back the water. "It's not going well at all," said a hurried Troy Krabbenhoft, whose back yard was under water. "They're talking about a lot more water."

The region's worst flooding in decades started last week when temperatures hit 15C, quickly melting the winter snow that was op to twice as deep as normal. The rain began last Friday and turned into a blizzard that piled up to a meter more of snow across the prairie.

The blizzard was followed by record cold that turned snow and floodwaters into sheets of ice.

The Staff of the Sephardic Educational Center in Jerusalem extends deep, heartfelt condolences to its

> on the passing of his beloved mother ANA NESSIMary

World President and Founder Dr. Jose A. Nessim and family

May you be comforted among the moumers of Zion and Jerusalem

Bernard Frydman, Director

Natali Alkalai



Shiri Badayev

Nirit Cohen Adi Malka

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Sivan Fathl Ya'ala Me'iri

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Sincere condolences to our colleague Aaron Katsman upon the loss of his mother

TZVIA KATSMAN

May you and your family be comforted among the moumers of Zion and Jerusalem

The Staff of CommStock Trading Co., Ltd.

Friends and Colleagues of

S. ZALMAN ABRAMOV 🚈

are invited to gather for an evening in his memory

Speakers:

Meir Shamgar, former President of the Supreme Court **Professor Anita Shapiro**

Tuesday, April 15, 1997 (8 Nisan 5757) at 8:00 p.m.

> **Hebrew Union College** 13 King David Street Jerusalem

British election campaign heats up

LONDON (Reuter) - After three: weeks of testing enemy battle lines, the two main armies in Britain's election campaign are finally on the

The fight for power has intensified considerably this week, at the halfway stage in the campaign, coinciding with tentative opinion poll evi-dence that the ruling Conservatives have checked and may be pushing back the advance of their Labor opponents.

Certainly, the mood in the Conservative camp has brightened as the ruling party's guns start to find their range.

In Birmingham, Prime Minister John Major snapped at a reponer who asked him about sleaze allegations against former Conservative trade minister Neil Hamilton. He accused another of trying to lay

in valedictory mood when he confided that he thought quashing inflation

would be his greatest legacy.
But by Wednesday night, on a flight back from a day on the stump in Wales, he was chaning animatedly with journalists after hearing that a MORI poll had shown the Conservatives narrowing Labor's lead to 15 points from 27 points in a

And at yesterday's daily news con-ference he breezily promised to be still there answering questions in five years' time. While Major has rediscovered a

spring in his step, Labor leader Tony Blair is being forced onto the back He was as confident as ever during

a hard day's campaigning in western England but has looked uneasy this week when grilled in high-profile BBC television and radio interviews

and at his daily news conferences.

Deputy Prime Minister Michael
Heseitine gleefully claimed Blair was cracking under the strain of explaining apparent policy shifts over privatization and union rights.

Future Hong Kong government blasted over freedom restrictions

News agencies

HONG KONG - Hong Kong's future government drew a blast of criticism yesterday after launching proposals to curb civil liberties wheo the British colony returns to Chinese rule oo Chief Executive-designate Tung Chee-hwa's

team sprang to the defensive, arguing that the proposals were necessary and responsible, and Beijing chimed in with its support.

But Tung's plan to put oew limits on the right

to demonstrate and form political organizations came under fire from pro-democracy politicians, departing British Governor Chris Patten and newspaper editorials.

"It astonishingly argues that the restrictions are needed because 'social stability' is under threat in Hong Kong," said legislator Christine

"Why is our future chief executive publishing such alarmist nonseose? It is seriously damaging to confidence in Hong Kong's future for him to do so," she said.

The White House said yesterday it was "fundamentally important" that Hong Kong residents continue to eojoy the freedoms they now have when China takes over the British colony. Spokesman Mike McCurry said: "We think it

is fundamentally important for all sides to respect the commitments that they have made io the joint declaration of basic law, which provides the basis for the one-China, two-systems formula that promises that Hong Kong will continue to thrive and its people will enjoy the freedoms that they have come to expect."

He said he dld not know if President Bill Clintoo would meet the leader of Hong Kong's democracy movement, Martin Lee, who is on a lobhying mission in the United States and has protested against the proposed curbs on political freedoms.

Tung launched the proposed curbs on Wednesday for a three-week public consulta-.. tioo process. The proposals require demonstrators to get police permission before taking to the streets and bar local groups from having ties with foreign political organizations.

They were widely expected after China's National People's Congress (NPC), or parliameot, in February declared parts of Hong-Kong's Public Order and Societies ordinances incompatible with the Basic Law, the territory's future constitution promulgated by Beijing.

Jupiter moon pictures indicate oceans yesterday as those images, includ- an ocean here." The pictures of icy

blowing pictures" of large icebergs on the surface of Jupiter's released at NASA's Jet Propulsion provide "the clearest evidence to frozen moon Europa are tantaliz- Laboratory. scientists with the possibilit they've found evidence of a dynamic ocean, which could have

spawned life at some point. The closeup pictures taken by the unmanned Galileo spacecraft during a Feb. 20 flyby have scientists more eager than ever to explore the icy moon's interior.

Their enthusiasm was palpable

ing an animated video, were chunks scattered like pottery shards "It looks as though we found the

smoking gun that points at this subsurface ocean," said Michael Carr. a geologist with the US Geological Survey.

"These are really mind-blowing sintures." This Printer of the control of

pictures," said Richard Terrile, an astronomer at the JPL. "How often is an ocean discovered? ... There is very strong evidence that there is

close to the surface of Euro said Torrence Johnson, the Galileo project scientist at JPL.

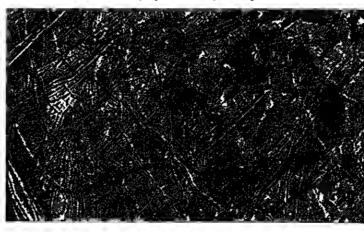
But, Johnson cautiooed "we bave no evidence directly bearing on life." Carr said the icy blocks. each about 3 to 6 km across and resembling icebergs seen at the poles here on Earth, appeared to have drifted apart, "You can push them back together to reconstruct

date there is liquid water and melt-

the original pattern," he said. Their movement adds weight to scientists' notion that a relatively warm watery or slushy layer underlies a trozen crust that could be anywhere up to 95 km, thick.

Oceanographer John Delaney of the University of Washington said the water on Europa is probably rich in salt and other dissolved chemicals from millennia of interaction with rocks and was spiked by incoming comets with the organic molecules necessary for

STATE OF THE



The crusty surface of Jupiter's moon Europa.

The journalist: Overworking to put out a dull paper

WASHINGTON (AP) - Ah, the American journalist - he finds his own paper dull, he thinks newspapers have a diminishing importance and he feels he doesn't get enough feedback from the boss, a survey says.

By age 60, be thinks he'll be doing something else. For all that, 77 percent of American newspaper people say that if they had to do it over, they'd choose again to go into newspapering. But that's down from the 84 percent who said so in a similar survey in

For the most part, the journalist is still "he"-63 percent of editors, reporters, photographers, copy editors and editorial writers are male. But among those 30 or under, half are women. The survey of "the expectations, aspirations, satis-

factions and dissatisfactions of newspaper journalists"was undertaken by the American Society of Newspaper Editors and made public at ASNE's con-A total of 1,037 editors, reporters, photographers, copy editors and editorial writers on 61 large, aver-

age-sized and small papers participated. One striking finding is that when journalists read their own papers, they often don't find them interesting. Sixty-four percent said they only occasionally or rarely consider their own paper "a good read."

Only 36 perceot find it "usually very interesting."

And while 40 percent think their own papers are getting better, 21 percent think they are getting worse. As for the impact of newspapers on society, a 55 percent majority think newspapers will play a less important part in American life 10 years from now.

Eight years ago, 33 percent thought that way.

Asked about their complaints, 46 percent mentioned having little impact, dealing with insignificant matters, a lack of opportunity to be creative and "the daily grind." Low pay and benefits was listed by 23

Seventy-two perceot said they rarely or only occa-sionally get feedback on the work they do. Only 43 percent said they plan to be on a newspa-

per staff by time they reach 60. Money is the higgest reason given for anticipating a departure. Twenty-six percent cite finances, especially the younger news people. But working conditions, stress and family considerations were also mentioned. Stress was a higger factor on hig papers

than the smaller ones. In line with other polls, the survey found that most newspaper people are liberals. The proportion of those calling themselves conservatives or Republicans was down to 15 percent in 1988, it had

been 22 perceot. Overall, the ournber of news room employees dropped by about 1,000 to 54,000.

In a farewell speech, Robert H. Giles, president of the society and editor and publisher of The Detroit News, acknowledged that a goal set by the society in 1978 - to make the minority representation in news rooms equal to that in the population by the year 2000 - will oot be met.

Minorities make up only 11.3 percent of news staff this year. No minoriues were employed in the newsrooms of 43.5 percent of US papers, most of them small. Currently minorities constitute 24 percent of the US population.

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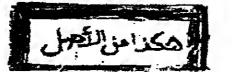
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Tisiting Prime Minister

Binyamin Netanyahu told

several audiences during

his visit to the US this week that

the difference between 1977 and

1997 is that Egyptian president

Anwar Sadat declared right away,

on his ground-breaking visit to Jerusalem, that war and violence

were history... In other words, Yasser Arafat is

Left unsaid was whether Netanyahu believes he is another

Menachem Begin. But

Notanyahu's analogy was apt if

only for its consistency with a

theme of his 24-hour visit here -

the feasibility of hringing about a

Camp David-like summit to

resolve the Israeli-Palestinian dis-

pute in its entirety within six

No sooner had Netanyahu sat

down in the Oval Office for his

meeting with President Bill

Clinton than reporters at a photo

opportunity heard Clinton swat

away at least the summit portion

of the fast-track proposal as "pre-

mature." Ooe of the key American

officials at the 1978 drama in

Maryland's Catoctin Mountains, William B. Quandt, seconds the rejection. Nevertheless, Quandt

says the idea has merit and that

such a dramatic step could invigo-

rate the process at a troubled time. One advantage, he suggests,

would be if Netanyahu enters the

fast track and a summit with the

greater maneuverability be would have available under a coalition

government he fears that with fixed and the Palestinian Authority now so far apart, a summit would be doomed to failure

and would have been utilized too



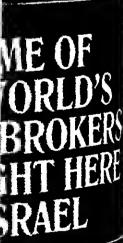
the EU for keeping the one sig! "critical dialogue"

rnmen triction

d he did not know if Prowould meet the leader of the cy movement. Martin Land mission in the United Sator against the proposed cutse

launched the proposed of lay for a three-week public eso. The proposals require er police permission before is and bar local groups for foreign political organizate were writely expected aims People v Congress (NO. e February declared pass Partie Corder and Societies this with the Base Law dee manutation promulgated by Re

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An old new idea

A Camp David-style summit is the PM's newest

proposal for reviving the peace talks with the

Palestinians. How feasible is it? Hillel Kuttler

reports from Washington

"What was different was that

even though there were significant

problems in the Begin-Sadat way

of envisaging an agreement

between them, we had a pretty

good sense that there was a point

of convergence - that is, that

Begin was ready to withdraw from

most of Sinai - if oot all of it, [including] settlements - [and]

Sadat was ready to agree to peace

"Going into final

status when the

the parties is...

50 or 60 per-

cent - that's

quite a bridge.

And Clinton is

frankly not a

great bridge-

with an exchange of diplomats and

formal recognition, although

maybe not quite on the prime scale

professor of government and for-

eign relations at the University of

Virginia, continues: "So you could

say to yourself in good conscience that there's an Egyptian-Israeli

deal waiting to be struck, [that] each side had to move a little bit,

but it wasn't as if they had to fun-

damentally change their entire

way of looking at the world in

Quandt, now on sabbatical as

-Quandt

builder."

that Begin wanted." .

of their minds a similar looking

map, a similar set of relations, that

point of convergeoce where each side can kind of say, 'Okay, if you

give me that, I can give you this, and we've got a deal. We're very,

The US administration under

Carter favored Israeli withdrawal

from Sinai along with full diplo-

matic relations, so it saw eye-to-

eye with the principals. Clinton,

however, is not inclined to either

press the parties - at the risk of

alienating one or both of them - or

alternatively offer dramatic pro-

posals to stimulate negotiations,

September 1982, we have not real-

ly gone on record with this sub-

stantive outline of how we think

things should be resolved. And

that would almost be essential if

the US is going to throw itself into

the middle of this in a Camp

David-style meeting - unless by

Camp David we mean just getting

people together and then having

Clinton walk off ... while they

Let's spend as much time as need-

ed to break the impasse of the

negotiations, and the US will play

a major, substantive role in trying

to shape an outcome, then we

haven't seen anything like that

from this administration and I

Quandt offers a number of ratio-

nales for Netanyahu's looking to

hold accelerated negociations and

a summit. One is the possibility

that it could be a gimmick meant

to force Arafat to reject a new

offer for talks that are in any case

scheduled to be held now, albeit

while temporarily shelving inter-

im status negotiations.

If the US decides to proceed

with the idea after talks with

don't think we will," bc says.

"If by Camp David one means:

negotiate or whatever....

Since the Reagan speech of

very far from that."

Juandt believes.

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Intifada minus

The violence in Hebron this week was like a return to the intifada - with one big difference, Herb Keinon writes

'n December 1987, an Israeli truck collided with two Palestinian vans at the northern entrance to the Gaza Strip, killing four people. Rioting spread to the Jabalya refugee camp, and - as lore now has it - the intifada was

Those looking to draw parallels between the violence today in the territories and to the intifada of 10 years ago, would do well to look at the reactions to a similar accident that happened recently in Ouja, a village under Palestinian control just north of Jericho.

Last week, an IDF muck struck and killed a Palestinian boy who was crossing Route 90 in Ouja. The accident was a hit-and-run, with the driver fleeing from the scenc. In the highly charged atmosphere of the last few weeks. that incident could - like it did in 1987 - have touched off extreme violence. If not in Ouja or Jericho, considered "peaceful," then in Nablus, not that far away. But, it didn't. The incident went pretty much unnnticed.

The incident could have caused a problem," said Col. Yigal, com-mander of the IDF forces in the Jordan Valley. "But both we and the Palestinians dealt with it, and there was not a single incident in its wake." The IDF went to the home of the mourning parents, Col. Yigal said, arrested the driver of the car, and fixed the road where the boy was killed. All this during a period of heightened tension.

THE INTIFADA has turned into the benchmark against which all rounds of Palestinians violence are judged. That "popular uprising" was so traumatic, and such a watershed, that all emptions of violence in the territories lead to the inevitable question: Is the intifada back?

The violence that erupted after the opening of the Western Wall tunnel exit in September could be called an indiada Plus — the plus being the use of weapons by Palestinian police/soldiers.

The violence of the last few weeks can, using the same scale, be called an Intifada Minus - the minus being that the violence has so far been localized and kept within pretty well defined limits. The violence has not spread like wildfire, as it did in 1987. Last week, the rioting was centered in Bethlehem and Ramallah, near Jerusalem, the focus of contention. This week, the violence was in Hebron, and followed the killing of the Palestinian who allegedly attacked two yeshiva students.

"Whenever there is tension, it has a different impact on each of the different fronts," said the IDF's Jordan Valley commander. "The Palestinians [the PA] are in control. The disturbances will take place where they want them, where they don't want, there will not be any disturbances." Which, he said, explains why there has not been any violence in the Jericho-Ouja area. The Palestinians are interested in keeping the Allenby bridge open." Carmi Gillon, the former head of the GSS, was quoted in Yediot Aharonot yesterday as saying that

What is happening in the last few days is still not the intifada, but it is



This assessment was echoed by none other than Jabril Rajoub, who said: This is not at innifada, rather the expression of anger on the Palestinian street of the continuation of the settlements and failure to implement the interim agreements. Fundamentally, the use of violence harms our interest, since with violence and threats we do not

reach our political goals." Menachem Klein, an authority on Palestinian politics currently writing a book for the Jerusalem Institute for Israel Studies entitled Doves over Jerusalem: The City and the Peace Process, said there are important differences between what has been happening over the last two weeks and the inofada.

"The first days of the intifada saw the masses going out to the streets," Klein said. "Now we are seeing mostly students and Fatah members in organized demonstranons stemming from popular anger. They are localized, they revolve around a particular issue, and they are controlled."

Control, Klein said, is the key. The violence is managed, the Palestinians are not letting it get out of control."

Indeed. Tuesday's riots in Hebron continued for some four hours, until Rajoub's forces, distinguished in their black uniforms, came to the scene and silenced the stone throwers. The same happened in Bethlehem the previous week - rioting up to a certain point, followed by the intervention of the

Palestinian security forces. According to Klein, the decision to allow the protests, but to keep them on a low back burner, has a number of goals. There is genuine anger on the Palestinian street, Klein said, and the riots are a "channel for the anger and frustration." Another reason is that the PA

the street," Klein said. "Part of the back days. fight is for the political street. By organizing demonstrations and managing conflict, they prevent

Arafat, Klein said, is interested in using the controlled violence to serve his policical goals, not in seeing it get out of hand - as it did in September - and destroying the Oslo process. Klein said that the low level of violence serves to remind Netanyahu that he needs the Palestinian Police to control the situation, and a warning of what cold happen if the process does not

Hamas from using the anger to take

SOME who see the rocks and petrol bombs being thrown in the territories, and who see the IDF respond with tear gas and rubber bullets, may be tempted to say: The more things change, the more they stay the same." But, there are

differences. These differences were starkly apparent by visiting two different

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sites in the territories on back-to-

On Tuesday, the day of the Hebron shooting, that city looked, smelled and sounded, to a large degree, like the intifada of old. The streets were littered with hundreds of stones, there were the popping sounds of guns firing rubber bullets, and tear gas soured the air.

Yet the very next day, at the Allenby Bridge, one could not have dreamt of a more idyllic picture of Israeli-Palestinian cooperation. The deputy head of the Israeli side of the terminal, Yisrael Yifrah . hugged, traded "ahalans," and pinched the cheek of the Palestinian head of security at the site. There was back slapping, and joke telling. Palestinian and Israeli clerks dealt with one another as they have for months - cordially and in a relaxed atmosphere.

The contrasting images were stunning, the paradox great. It was the bitter and sweet in the same cup. The imponderable is which will prevail.

PART !

FRIDAY 18.4.97 at 14.00

PART II

SATURDAY 19.4.97

at 19.00 - FOUNTAIN PENS-

at 20.00 - ANTIQUES

INCLUDING

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THURSDAY 17.4.97 at 20.00

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11.4.97

12.4.97

Sunday-Wednesday 13-17.4.97 11.00 - 20.00

Saturday



Palestinian negotiators here this would have in common are "a order to get there. They needed week, Clinton could serve a useful a hint of what could occur if these something to justify the extra step or two that they still treeded to sense of urgency and crisis and a types of crisis continues. This time. sense that these were issues that role for Netanyahu "as a kind of the violence is centered in Hebron, could only be dealt with at the take. It was within range.... There co-orchestrator of pressures on while in other cities there is quiet. highest levels," says Quandt, who was a deal waiting to be struck. Arafat to scale way back on Palestinian demands and expecta-There is still not the spread of viodirected Middle East affairs at the "But that's not the way I see lence as there was during the intifa-National Security Council for things today. I don't see Arafat and Continued on Page 18 does not want Hamas to take over Netanyahu as having in the back president Jimmy Carter. SUDER DEALS THE JERUSALEM Palma - 16/4 - \$329 (for 2) Tenerile - 16/4 - \$299 Phodes - 17/4 - \$333 - with hold London Amsterdam Largest selection of Jordan 1 to 4 days Eqypt Cimard Royal Viking Sun BUDAPEST ROUND THE MORE · Scandinavia - Baltic Greek Egypt 2 to 9 days Mediterranean Island diperson free! Select Sailings Hopping Orbir Weekends marco polo Alaska incl. Nile cruises Athens LONDON 5 4529 ATTHEYS 5 4374 **Call the Experts:** \$1635 June 9 or 16 7 days Glacier Cruise **Мукопо**в 5 mt 4540 PEAGUE 4 mt 4580 Paros & Vienna ticket s949 Best Deal in Town 7 ris hotel B/6 \$639 Michael, 02-6252777. inside t. | Outside t. BONE 3 1 4557 BUDAREST 4599 Debbie 03-5229625 :932 :1065 Call your Ophir Tours office **BISHON-LE-ZION** KEYAT SHINDSA HAIFA RA'ANANA 04-8673011 Marcelle NETANYA NAHARIYA TEL AVIV Tsachar Building Shosh, Eva Kanyon Ha Zahav UNIVERSITY 02-6252777 75 Herzi St.

Against all odds

The monitoring committee established in south Lebanon after Operation Grapes of Wrath is more effective than Israeli officials ever believed it would be, Arieh O'Sullivan reports

sides of the border. But they leave

open the option of armed conflict between forces. It is this conflict

that extracts a toll from the IDF in the security zone and its ally, the

But despite this, the monitor

group continues to function. "I am

surprised that it is still meeting,"

said Dr. Gerald Steinberg, a senior

researcher at the Begin-Sadat

Center at Bar-Ilan University. "I

saw this as a means for [then-

prime minister] Shimon Peres to end the conflict quickly and get out. It was a fig leaf," Steinberg

said. "But it has turned out to be

much more. It is taken seriously

hy all sides. They do raise their

complaints of the violations of

using civilian areas as a base for

military attacks and for them

Steinberg said that a year ago it

was felt by the Israeli leadership

and some top IDF hrass that the

monitoring group, which has representatives from the United

States, France, Syria, Israel and Lebanon, would help in negotia-

tions with the Syrians which were

expected to pick up after the May

elections. Now, with the Syrian

track frozeo, the monitoring group

is the only official body where

Syrian and Israeli delegates actu-

none of the parties want this last

forum to disintegrate. They don't

want to fail. It is the only place

That is another reason why

ally meet face-to-face.

being hit in counter attack."

2,500-strong SLA.

They said it wouldn't hold water. They said it was just a diplomatic veil to get out of Lebanon after the Kafr Kana fiasco. They said it wouldn't have any hite. But a year after the 17-day Operation Grapes of Wrath, the five-nation monitoring group set up to monitor the cease-fire understandings drawn up last April is still functioning and, according to its Israeli representative Brig.-Gen. David Tzur, actually preventing potentially explosive tensions from escalating.

"Back then, the optimists said we wouldn't last eight months," - said Tzur, commander of the IDF Liaison Unit with foreign forces and former deputy head of the military intelligence research depart-· ment. "But the monitoring group has done what it was meant to do and proves itself with every new incident which has the potential of causing a deterioration in the

Tzur said that the main goal of Grapes of Wrath was to remove the civilians from the cycle of violence - and it did.

"You can look at this as a great success," he said. "For a whole year, the residents of the north have not been frightened about Katyushas being fired on them.

"A second success, as compared to the understandings reached in 1993 [after Operation Accountability]," said Tzur, "is Operation that the understandings now also include the residents of the security zone. That is no less important hecause the IDF and SLA [South Lebanese Army] work together."

ISRAEL BEGAN Operation force an end to the operation.

The April 26 cease-fire hrokered es are obvious, the failure, Oren says, is that it shows that after hy US Secretary of State Warren almost 50 years, Israelis and Arabs Christopher specifically prohibits still can't sit together to solve attacks against civilians or from problems without some kind of civilian populated areas on both

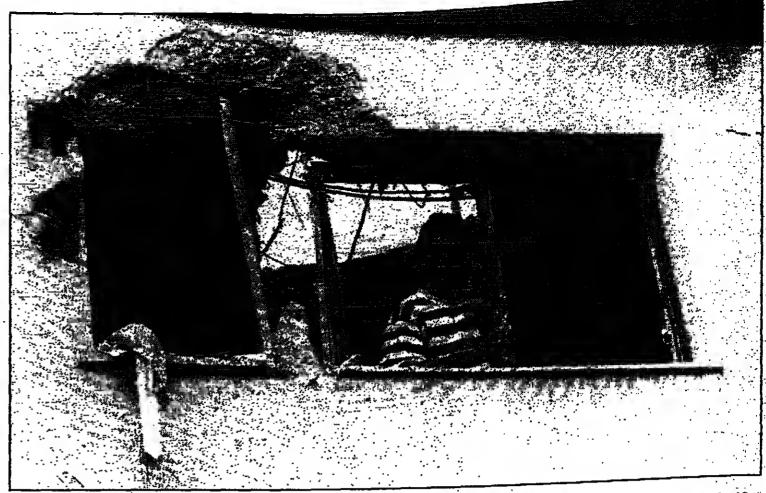
external mediation. Still, it is this mediation that keeps the monitoring group going, according to Steinberg. We have lots of external pressure on Syria and Lebanon and it comes from France. The Syrians are less sensitive to the Americans and they see the French as an alternative to the United States.

"If the French fail here, then their efforts to come back into the Middle East could be set back. The French take their role very seriously and they have put a lot of effort into this monitoring group." Steinberg said.

France assumed the rotating chairmanship of the monitoring group four months ago and is to give it back to the Americans on

Since the Arab states felt the Americans favored the Israeli side and the Israelis suspected the French were pro-Arabist, it was agreed upon from the beginning that any decision would be a unanimous one and no vote was taken. Because the summaries are agreed upon by all sides, they usually condemn an incident and not a

"This is a main factor in the work of the monitor," Tzur said. "You cannot summarize the discussions with very extreme or one-sided decisions because you have to have this unanimity. This also causes you to discuss the language so much. That is why it



A Kiryat Shmona resident looks through the window of his destroyed home exactly one year ago.

Northern exposure

iryat Shmona displays no outward signs of the scores of Katyusha rockets that hlasted the town hefore and during Operation Grapes of Wrath exactly one year ago.

The homes and public huildings, including schools, that were damaged in the rocket salvos, as well as factories and husiness premises, have all been repaired. On the surface, Kiryai Shmona has returned to normal, and the physical scars of the conflict have been erased or plastered over.

There are even external signs of growing prosperity. A new shopping mall, known as "Shmona Ba'emiza," with its own kosher McDonald's, hypermarket, drugstore and other shops, was inaugurated in the town on Tuesday night - 12 mooths, almost to the day, after the rocket attacks that led to the onset of Operation Grapes of Wrath.

Underneath, however, the psychological effects of the "Katyusha syndrome" - the traums of the rocket danger, of nights in bomh shelters and security rooms, families split up with many being evacuated from their homes and others staying behind to guard them - continue to linger.

Psychologists and school counselors spent weeks, and in some cases months, helping children and adults to come to terms with their trepidation. For the most part, they succeeded.

The number of residents who have left Kiryat Shmona permanently as a result of the bombardments is about equal to the numher of newcomers who have moved into the town since.

Even so, the slam of a car door nearby, the sonic boom of lowflying jets, the clatter of helicopters or the distant hlast of IDF and South Lehanese Army artillery firing at Hizhullah tasgets in Lehanon are often sufficient to set the pulses of some residents racing - even of those who prefer not to admit it, even privately.

And underlying it all is the knowledge that the situation in south Lehanon, a few kilometers

David Rudge visits Kiryat Shmona and finds a town coping with battle scars and broken government promises

international horder, remains as unstable and unpredictable as THE THREAT of further attacks and the attendant disruption of

northwards and beyond the

what is hlithely called "oormal life" are as pertinent oow as at any time in the turbulent history of the north io general, and Kiryat Shmona in particular. "The feeling that it will happen again is there. I think it will because this is what has been happening for 30 years," said

Yosef Waknin, who has been living in Kiryat Shmona since 1964. Despite his conviction that another round of rocket attacks on Kiryat Shmona is only a mat-ter of time, Waknin, who runs a cafe just off the main street and is better knowo locally as "Jo-Jo," maintains, in appareot contradiction, that the region is one of the safest in the country.

"We have the army guarding us and I feel that we are safer here than anywhere else. It's also one of the nicest parts of the country."

IN TERMS of development, however, Kiryat Shmona lags hehind the rest of the country and there are those, like Waknin, who believe that prosperity will only really come about once the threat of the Karyusha rockets and cross border terrorism have heen removed once and for all.

"Kiryat Shmooa has been neglected virtually since it was founded in the 1950s. There's no other city in the country where the main road is only eight

meters wide," said Waknin.
"When there is peace and quiet here, investors will come and the whole place will hlossom and bloom. There will be hotels, hecause this is a good place for tourism, as well as industry," he

According to local residents, the signs of prosperity are illusory and some helieve that the oew shopping mall will either succeed and put others out of husiness, or fail because there are not enough customers to go

Mayor Prosper Azran believes

the solution lies in doubling the population of Kiryat Shmona, which has remained static at around 22,000 for the past few years, as well as increasing the

number of johs.

In this respect, he is at odds with the government. According to Azran, there was an agree-ment with the government that military industries io the region would be given preference for Defense Ministry johs even if their tenders were as much as 15 perceot more than other factories which had hid for the work. "This has now been canceled. Now all the factories in the confrontation line will have a prob-

> The number of residents who have left Kiryat Shmona permanently as a result of the bombardments is about equal to the number of newcomers.

lem because they will lose the hids," said Azran. "In such a case, what will happen to the workers? Will they be laid off and sent home?"

He maintained that the government also had a policy to promote tourism to the region hut had only given approval for the construction of one hotel, eveo though proposals for three had been put forward.

"It's already a miracle that three entrepreceurs want to huild hotels in Kiryat Shmona. The government, however, has insisted on only giving one the approval and that ooe has been prevaricating hecause of the security situation.

The other two want to go ahead, despite everythiog, but

government won't give approval for them until the first hotel bas been completed."
Yet Azran did not take part in

last week's demonstrations hy other members of the forum of Heads of Confrontation Line Communities against proposed hudget cuts and to press the govemment to honor commitments, made after Operation Grapes of Wrath, to give the north special

AZRAN EXPLAINED that he had been too husy fighting a rearguard action on the home front. in terms of the municipality's budget, and trying to ensure that there would be enough money to pay the March salaries of employees.

"We were always careful to ensure that there was never a hig deficit oo the budget but now we are NIS 25 million in arrears, directly as a result of Operation Grapes of Wrath," be said. "This is likely to rise to NIS 40 million in a year's time unless we receive the financial aid we

were promised," said Azran. In any case, the government has played down the complaints, maintaining it is doing all in its power to abide by and implement the decision of the previous administration to give the regioo additional aid.

DESPITE THE economic and security problems which have afflicted Kiryat Shmona over the years, there are those residents for whom the town is "the he all and end all." Habiba Biton, 86, is one of them. She remained in Kiryat Shmona, living underground in the puhlic homb shelter for most of the time, throughout Operation Grapes of Wrath, even when Katyusha rockets fell in the vicinity of her home.

22 .

RA'

Wed

On the last day of the fighting, minutes before the Americanhrokered ceasefire took effect, a Katyusha rocket hit two of the homes in the block where she lives, just three doors down.

There was nobody in the apartments where the rocket exploded because the residents had been evacuated. They returned to find their homes in ruins and some of the contects damaged heyond repair.

Biton, a widow, remained steadfast throughout and was equally adamant a year later. "I have lived here most of my life," she said, "and I have no intentioo of leaving, whatever happens."



Brig.-Gen. David Tzur, Israel's representative on the monitoring committee.

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Grapes of Wrath exactly one year ago with a stunning show of pinpoint hombings. It fired over 20,000 shells as it hunted down Hizhullah rocket launchers and forced hundreds of thousands of Lebanese to flee northward. It was a war of luxury with no IDF casuialties. But it took just one miscalculated shell which killed over 100 refugees huddled in the presumed sanctuary of a UN base to

turn the world against Israel and to

where there is Israeli-Syrian contact," Steinberg said.

is relatively successful for what it set out to do. The fact that there are meetings is important and is a way of discussing and generating a more specific set of rules of what is acceptable in

Amir Oren, a respected military analyst from Ha'arerz, called the monitoring group a "small success amid a large failure." The success-

Tzur said the French, in his eyes, were fair in general.

He took a piece of paper and drew a circle. "We sit at a round table. The

Americans sit here, then the Syrians, the Lebanese, Israel and the French. They didn't want us to sit next to the Americans."

THE MONITORING group has met 15 times since it first con-Continued on Page 9

DOOR PRIZES RETURN TO

PESSAH HANDICRAFTS FAIR. Ra'anana Sport Hall, Wednesday, April 23

1. Round Trip to London, Zion Tours, Jerusalem

One-night stay for couple, B & B basis, King David Hotel, Jerusalem

Dinner for two, Pavillon Restaurant, Hyatt Regency Hotel, Jerusalem

Dinner for two, Pavillon Restaurant, Hyatt Regency Hotel, Jerusalem

Dinner for two, Bistro Restaurant, Laromme Hotel, Jerusalem

6. Door Harp, Harari Harps, Jerusalem Gift certificate, NIS100,

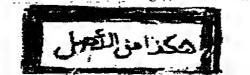
Hatsa'atsua Toys, Jerusalem Gift certificate, NIS100,

One-day trip for two, Shorashim 10. Two tickets, Philharmonic Concert,

Hatsa'atsua Toys, Jerusalem

Bimot Ticket Agency, Jerusalem 11. Two tickets, children's show, Bimot Ticket Agency, Jerusalem

12. Lunch or dinner for two, Surfers' Paradise Cafe, Jerusalem Municipality Culture Departm The Bast Jerusalem Development Company THE NAHALAT SHIVA FAIR Ben Hadfus Square Bed Yoel Square Rivin Square Arts and Crafts Fair Ceramics, jewelny lapestry, gifts April 23 25, 1997 (Bel Hannoed Pessell) llam -6 p.m (Friday milit 3 p.m.) Jerusalem. For all the reasons in the world.





government won's in has been completed. Azran did not take pani week's demonstration k members of the forme s of Confrontation Le munities, against propos et cuts and to press them ent to honor commitmen ufter Operation Graps b. to give the north star

AN EXPLAINED that is rein to busy fighting age. it action on the home for error of the municipale. er, and trying to ensure would be enough most the March salants t

e were always careful to that there was neverale it on the budget but now a NIS 25 million in men : 13. un a result of Operate ne will Wrant he said. To Ke'y to the to NIS 40 miles a section time unksig give the financial adv re promised." said Ama. any case, the government print in mainteining it is die in the proper to abile he ne derision de

er value er Ludditional aid. 18 SAVITE THE MONOMES narry problems which is Theory Kirner Shmous & i protected that has been nie der a hom Reimigst to the second of them & that he dien Kinyar Shine. and and are the party of the pa throughout Operate Africa of Wrath, even &

Only is a runs 100 Mg 180 Mg 18 THUS OF MINE 1 1 1 1 10 in 10 i

VA FAIR

sed Pessahi

ODDS

der, which wounded an IDF sol-

dier, a woman and her two chil-

dren. After meeting for seven-

and-a-half hours, the committee

issued a statement calling on all

sides to refrain from attacking

civilians and did not specifically

However, it has in the past

issued statements blaming sides for attacks, but never for violating

the agreement. Israel was blamed

for shelling the village of Safed el-Battikh injuring 13 civilians

Tzur explained that each side

wants to appear to be honoring the

blame anyone.

last October.

Colonel Maher Tafili, head of Continued from Page 8 army intelligence in south Lebanon, who probably files complaints from Hizbullah. vened on August 8. Israel has filed The Syrians, represented by Staff Brigadier Adnan Balloul, 13 complaints and the Lebanese 11. The last meeting took place a deputy head of Syrian intelligence month ago after Israel protested in Lebanon, do not submit comagainst a car bomb explosion near plaints and see themselves as the village of Markaba, just 220 observers. meters from the international bor-

According to Tzur, the Syrians are playing according to the rules. "I think that the Syrians understand the benefits of the understandings. I don't know what will be in the future. From now on, each party has a common interest in going on with this understanding and monitoring group," Tzur

Lebaooo is represented by

"It is having an effect. You can see it on the ground. If you count how many Israeli civilians were injured a year before the Grapes of Wrath and then count how many have been wounded this year ... I think none. On the other side there is a big reduction of

Now, with the Syrian track frozen, the monitoring group is the only officlai body where Syrian and Israeli delegates actually meet face-to-face.

understandings and, after an incident, makes efforts to improve the situation on the ground.

Leading the US and French delegations are diplomats supported hy military advisers, whereas the Israeli, Lebanese and Syrian delegations are led by the military officers. This was because Beirut and Damascus didn't want it to be a substitute for the peace process. France's representatives on the committee are Foreign Ministry official Jean-Michel Gaussot and General Le Mesr Depas. The Americans are represented by David Greenlee, a former political adviser io the Pentagon and Gen. (ret.) Jim Wilson.

Tzur described how in the beginning the complaints from each side were told to the Americans or French who relayed them to the Lebanese and Syrians sitting around the very same table. But oow they talk directly.

This is how it works: If there is an action which either the Israelis or Lebanese feel is a violatioo of the understandings, then a complaint is filed with the Americans and French based in Nicosia. The complaint must be filed within 24 hours of an event. If deemed valid, a meeting is called, usually about 36 hours later. Tzur and the rest of the Israeli delegation fly to the north and then drive over the border to the UNIFIL base in.

- The Syrians and Lebanese refused to drive since it would mean traveling through "occupied territory," so they are ferried in from Beirut on an Italian heli-

The meetings are usually held in the evening and if they stretch past midnight, the pilots don't fly them back and the delegates find themselves laying their heads on their arms on the round table until dawn.

ACCORDING TO Tzur, it is the diplomats who enter into long. debates about wording, "especially the Lebanese and the Syrians, they like to argue about every word," Tzur said.

civilians or soldiers wounded in military clashes. No doubt about

Tzur said that Hizbullah has changed its method of operation due to the understandings, with less firing and more use of roadside charges or antitank rockets. Hizbullah never accepted responsibility for the two Katyushas fired into Israel in December and January, most likely because they want to appear to be sticking to the understandings. There were also reports from Lebanoo that terrorists from a joint operations team from the Syrian-backed Popular Front for the Liberacco of Palestine and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine launched the rockets.

In any case, Tzur considers these two incidents as exceptions. Those attacks caused no injuries or property damage and were launched from an area under control of the Lebanese government.

In Beirut, Hizbullah says it remains committed to last April's understandings, but there has been a recent wave of comments by the organization's leaders threatening retaliatory Katyusha rocket attacks on Galilee if any more Lebanese civilians are hurt as a result of actions by the IDF or its ally, the SLA.

However, Tzur said: "We are committed to the understandings. I don't see us breaching the understandings. If we will have 30 Katyushas on us tomorrow that means that the Hizbullah is oot accepting the understandings anymore so this is a new game. But, basically, I think the IDF in the last few months has shown a lot of restraint io using artillery.

"According to the understandings, there is no shadow of a doubt that the stroogest right is the right to self-defense. We are permitted to use it in nearly every condidon. They can claim that it wasn't selfdefense and we didn't have to open fire. But oo one will accept this. The moment our soldiers are in danger there is no reason why we shouldn't react."

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Rebuilding a life

The fact that Hanni Himi survived the Katyusha rocket that exploded alongside her ear, setting it ablaze with her unconscious inside, is due to a combination of

courage and fortuity. It was had luck in the first place that she just happened to be in that particular place, just 200 meters from her home in Kiryat Shmona, at that time, shortly after the start of Operation Grapes of Wrath last

Her husband, Yossi, former deputy mayor and now head of the Likud opposition on the town council, prefers to describe what happened afterwards as a series

"It was Friday April 12, just after 10 a.m. I will never forget that date or what occurred as long as I live," said Yossi, speaking at his office at the Delgil cosmetics products factory on Kiryat Shmona's industrial

"We were both at home at the time. It had been quiet for a few days after the rocket attacks that preceded the operation against

"Hanni rang up the local grocery store to see if it was open and went out for groceries, including fish, for Shabbat. It was just after the end of Pessah.

"She went in the car, She was usually very strict about wearing a seat belt, but this time she didn't. That also helped save her

'Hanni had only just left when I heard and felt the explosion. It was very loud, very strong and very close. I knew instantly that Hanni had been hurt. I put on some shoes and raced outside." From his angle of view as he ran into the road, Yossi could oot

see their car, ooly the smoke hil-

lowing upwards. "A neighbor shouted that it was a parked car that had been hit, but I told him it was Hanni," he said. By the time he reached the scene, a matter of a scant minutes, Hanni had already been pulled from the blazing wreck by

policeman FSM David Buhhut

and another neighbor. Both later

received citations for hravery. "I haven't got the words to express my feelings of gratitude to them. But for them, Hanni would have been burned to death in the car," said Yossi.

Then there was another miracle. A cameraman who was there and was filming what had happeoed saw that she was choking to death. He put down the camera and pulled her tongue out. That also saved her life."

Eveo so, it appeared at the outset that Hanni would not survive. Apart from injuries from the blast, ber body had been peppered by shrapnel from the rock-



Hanni Himi still has a piece of shrapnel lodged in her head from the Katyusha rocket that exploded next to her. One year later, she has not fully recovered her memory, David Rudge reports

et, including fragments that had entered her head, damaging the

Yossi, 46, accompanied his wife In the IAF helicopter to Haifa's Ramham Hospital after she had received initial treatment at Magen David Adom's frootlice emergency ward in Kiryat Shmona. The prognosis was not

"The doctors told me that her coodition was very grave. I understood that her chances of survival were very slim." Yossi contacted their two children, Mirit, now 18, and Omer, now 15, who had both seeo what had happened on TV.

"Mirit was io Haifa and Omer them and they came to the hospital, along with all the family and friends. Everybody rallied round, offering to help, the staff at the hospital, everybody," said

Seemingly against all the odds, Hanni pulled through. After a week of waiting, Yossi was told hy the doctors at Rambam that her condition was stabilizing, although she remained io a

They told me, however, that she would oot return to herself and that the center of ber understanding and voice had probably been damaged. When she left Rambam after over three weeks of treatment, she was still paralyzed from the waist down," said

The next eight months were speot io recuperation and rehabilitation at Beit Levinsteio where Hanoi learned bow to walk and talk again, to control had been oo a trip to the Golan, I her bodily functions and become managed to get in touch with re-acquainted with her husband of 23 years and their two chil-

> She returned home permaneotly just three mooths ago, still bearing visible scars of ber brush

with death, as well as a piece of shrapnel lodged hehind her forehead which has not heen removed. There were oo fatalities in the

rocket attacks on Kiryat Shmona year ago, although more than 270 people received medical treatment, 17 of them for light injuries caused by shrapoel and the remainder for sbock. Hanni was among three of those who were hadly burt.

HANNI TAUGHT at the Korczak elementary and juniorbigh school in Kiryat Shmona before ber iojuries. She has returned to school where she helps the assistants and the school secretary.

Being at the school, among the helping sometimes in the handicraft lessons, is also part of the

over the rainbow

Ra'anana, Tel. 09-743 0531

her not being here after every-thing she has done for the children and the school," said

School principal Shosh Shemer

and the education department

were only too glad to have ber

back and try to help her regain

"She is part of the family at our school. We couldn't think of

"She helps the art teachers and we have started to gradually bring her ioto the first-grade classes, with the teacher, so she

rehabilitation process.

will be io an environment with the children again. "We hope that one day she will be able to teach again," said

Hanni herself remembers little of her past life. Most of her knowledge, according to Yossi, has been learned since the explo-

"Everything is blurred and fuzzy and muddled up." said Hanoi, speaking quietly hut clearly. I thick I remember the Katyusha rocket explosion, bot not everything that I went through," she said.

"I suppose that there was a stage when I didn't think I would wake up. Sometimes I ask myself why it happened to me. just at that time in that place.

Yossi and the children have helped me a lot, and so has being here at the school with the children. Being at home helps me to remember, but its still hazy because everything was wiped

out of my memory.

I remember having been at school before hut its all very distant, as if it was a loog, long time ago and far away.

Now I see the childreo and I feel I want to be a teacher again, to belp educate and traio them. That's my aim now." Hanni said that returning to her bome in Kiryat Shmona had beeo an emoconal experience, but she was oot frightened, "I suppose you can say that I'm living proof that life goes on. Nothing will make me move from here. Not Karyusha rockets or anythiog else, not baving been giveo my life back like a present," she said.

For Yossi and the children, the rehabilitatioo process has beeo loog, slow and arduous. "Hanni was the pillar of the family. Now we have had to rally around her. be said.

"There are still things that she is learning anew. It's difficult, hot we are together. I have my wife back, the children bave despite all the problems, that

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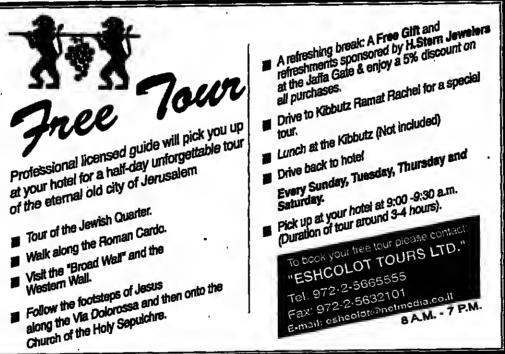
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Patrolling the urban battlefield



Spot check: A policeman stops a truck driver as part of a new traffic safety campaign launched this week.

Truck driver Oleg Tinkelstein seemed bewildered as a Traffic police are cracking down police motorcyclist flagged him down near the Ra'anana juncon irresponsible driving. tion this week. The Russian immigrant handed over his driver's license and other documents from his truck. A moment later, his two law enforcers bewilderment turned to fear as two traffic policemen

motorbike to check Tinkelstein's documents and driving record over his walkie-talkie. Everything was

The policeman went to his

Tinkelstein didn't begin to relax

Raine Marcus accompanied on the highways this week.

until he was told he'd been pulled presence on Israel's husiest, most dangerous roads. The project over only as a random check that's stretches over 700 kilometers part of a new police campaign designed to increase the police countrywide in a joint NIS 15 million project by the Transport and Internal Security Ministries and

the police. As public concern rises over seemingly endless deaths on the roads, the police are targeting the most troublesome two-thirds of Israel's roads. Spot checks on trucks are a hig part of that campaign, since 30 percent of all accidents involve these vehicles, hut the police have a lot of other tricks up their sleeves.

The public can expect to see a police vehicle, either marked or unmarked, every seven or 10 kilometers," said National Traffic Commander Bertie Ohayon-Supt, Avi Shushan of the Central District traffic police is in charge of specific areas in the new campaign, which was launched Tuesday and dubbed Project 700. Shushan reckons Project 700 can slash accidents by 10%. Last year's statistics show that 60% of

all traffic accidents occurred on

intercity highways, so police have decided to concentrate their efforts

on these accident-prone roads. Indeed, in the area around the Ra'anana and Morasha ametions on Tuesday, police cars could be seen every few kilometers, as well as traffic cops astride the latest Harley Davidson and Honda motorbikes.

Just the presence of police vehicles seemed to have a deterrent effect on motorists - those behind the car driven by Shushan and his colleague Supt. Doron Yisraeli were afraid to overtake and made sure they kept their distance. But not all drivers were undeterred. Some turning right drove in the shoulder to avoid waiting in traffic jams. That's "a borderline offense," said Shushan. "But we do stop motorists for technical offenses, such as not wearing seat belts, as well as those obviously committing offenses such as speeding or failing to keep their distance from the car in front."

The project, which includes the latest in technological equipment, can also help arrest criminals, car thieves and potential terrorists, Shushan says.

A couple of kilometers up the road from where Tinkelstein was pulled over, a white van with blacked-out windows was parked at the roadside.

To the untrained eye, the van looked harmless enough. Shushan and Yisraeli went to take a closer look at the van. In the windscreen was a Marom camera, developed in Israel to monitor not only a vehicle's speed hut also to see when a car is too close to the vehicle in front - one of the chief causes of accidents. Inside the van, a policeman sat before a computer screen, which showed vehicles passing the van. They were filmed as they exceeded the

A close call

left Supts. Avi Sinistian and Doron Visraeli at four o'clock in the afternoon at Sharon sub-district headquarters in K far Sava LOD my way back to Tel Aviv. I seemed to see police cars everywhere. One signaled to an old car to pull over to the side of the road. Others, blue lights flashing, parrolled the highways at the start of the rosh hour. The Central District alone, encompassing the Tel Aviv Jerusalem highway and the old Tel Aviv-Haifa road, now is patrolled by 12 traffic police vehicles, instead of the

I made my way conto the two lane entrance to the Ayalon high-way near Herzliya. A car, headlights flashing, was right on my tail. The driver leaned on his horn and his female passenger

laughed hysterically at his macho antics. But the inside lane on the highway was full. The driver behind me was close to sudging the bumper of my car, still beeping his hom and laughing. I felt close to death. If I had driven faster, I would have crashed into the car in front. There seemed to be no escape from this lunatic, so I waited for a gap in the traffic while

Where were those police varis when I needed them? Where was the Maron? Would that driver have behaved in this life-threatening way if he saw uniforms and flashing blue lights?

It's still too early to tell if Project 700 will have an impact on ccidents or tame wild drivers. But even as an experienced driver, I admit that when I take to the rostis these days I feel as if I'm heading for the battlefield. Hopefully Cmdr. Bertie Ohayon and his traffic police can save a few lives.

speed limit or failed to keep the correct distance from the car in front of them.

The drivers weren't stopped; hut that doesn't mean they got away with anything. "They can expect to receive at home a ticket with a fine within 30 days," said Yisraeli.

By 3:30 in the afternoon, 46 cars had been filmed traveling too close to the car in front and six speeding motorists had been captured on

All offenses are forwarded to the police's Jerusalem headquarters, which then sends out notices of the

An optional extra to the Marom camera is a wireless printer installed in another police car 2 kilometers down the road. Surprise, surprise!

Just when offenders are speeding down the highway, they are stopped and presented with an online print-out recording their vehicle's excessive speed or the narrow distance between it and another

Millions of shekels have been spent on laser technology to measure speed and hidden cameras on police cars and at traffic lights.

Both Shushan and Yisraeli emphasize the deterrent effect of having police cars on the roads, and the importance of law enforcement in the war against often fatal accidents.

"If drivers see a police car.or van every few kilometers, they tend to behave differently." Shushan said. The police's task is to enforce the law to curtail the death toll and not to educate drivers. Educating drivers is the task of other bodies, but naturally we will work in cooperation with them."

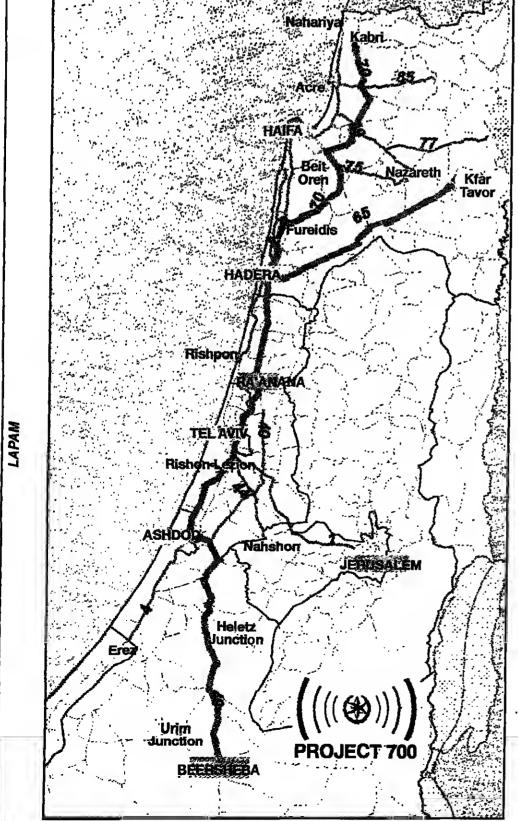
After his initial shock, Tinkelstein the truck driver was happy to cooperate with the police and their spot check. "I think it's good the police are checking out drivers," said Tinkelstein, who drives his truck for a hiscuit factory. "I heard there are a lot of car thefts here."

. K. S

And what of Israeli driving hahits? Weighing his words carefully and smiling enigmatically, Tinkelstein said Israeli drivers are similar to motorists in his native

If that's the case, Shushan may have his work cut out for him.

More police, more police cars, more technology TO REDUCE ROAD ACCIDENTS



Along 700 km, of roads with the most accidents the police has introduced advanced methods of law enforcement, visible and hidden, on a large scale, to apprehend offenders.

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Lecturers: Hanan Eshel, Zeev Safrai, Paula Fredriksen, Chana Safrai, Richard Landes, Yvonne Friedman, Isaac Hasson, Daniel J. Lasker, Aviezer Ravitsky, Moshe Hazani, Kurt Weis, Hillel Schwartz, Jeffrey Woolf

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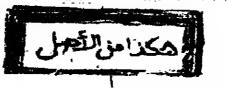
The date: Wednesday/Thursday, April 30/ May 1, 1997.

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Ask for Michal, Vered, or Varda.



المكذاءن التجهل





By AMOTZ ASA-EL

n 1989, when a French diplomat stormed into a meeting hall where European and Arab officials were gathered for trade talks, and jubilantly announced the fall of Romanian dictator Nicolae Ceausescu, the Europeans at hand reflexively burst into applause while their Arah interlocutors remained solemnly silent, apparently pondering the expanding political gaps between their countries and the rest of the world.

Tragically, judging by its latest anti-Israeli maneuvers, the Arab League has yet to fully understand what the end of the Cold War means for them.

To be sure, in a few brief years which saw not only the fall of communism, but also the democratization of Latin America and sweeping economic reforms across the Far East, the Middle East has emerged as the world's last bastion of political antocracy and fierce economic statism. It is from the depths of this historie black hole that the Arah League comes forth with its

The Losers' League anachronistie and unrealistic call to freeze ties with Israel and renew

construction at Har Homa. Conceived by Syria, and led by its secretary-general Esmat Abdel-Meguid, one might have taken the Arab League's whims a bit more seriously had there been any other substantive items on its agenda; but there are none. In fact. 52 years after its establishment, this classic tool of British colonialism can still elaim to have done pretty much nothing other than bicker with and over Israel.

After having once expelled Egypt, due to its signing of a peace treaty with Israel, and after having glaringly failed to avert the intra-Arab fighting of the Gulf war, the League is happy now to finally manage to get together for yet another gang-up on Israel; it had been such a long time since 22 Arab foreign ministers could all bask in each other's chuckles while enjoying the limelight of the world's media and taking turns at throwing verbal darts at Israeli leaders. The only problem is that when

the celebration of condemnations, declarations and name-calling is over, not one desperate Arab's financial, social or political lot has been even remotely improved. The fact is that while developing

and emerging markets attracted a hefty \$800 billion in overall capital inflows during the first half of facto exclusion from the work-

the decade, and \$110b. in foreign direct investments last year alone, the old boycott, in response to the the Middle East and North Africa skimmed a mere 0.5% of those sums, and even those funds largely went to non-Arab Turkey and

> Anyone in touch with the investment world knows that these dismal figures reflect primarily the failures of most Arab governments - i.e. those very luminaries whose conclave in Cairo pompously pontificated to the West on what not to do with its money - to convince investors that their money can securely and handsomely appreciate on Arab soil

Moreover, had its concern for

Arab progress equaled its alarm

over the construction of a few streets on a Jerusalem hilltop, the Arab League would have also used its meetings in order to ponder the meaning of its member states' widespread illiteracy (ranging anywhere from 35% in Syria to 50% in Egypt), soaring unemployment (averaging a conserva-tively estimated 20%), incredible lack of women's jobs (which, at an average 9% of the workforce, are the scarcest in the world), frightening infant mortality rates (28, 36, and 57 per 1,000 births respectively in Saudi Arabia, Syria and Egypt), and world-leading birth rates (2.5% per annum), a direct result of most Arab women's de-

Not to mention the human-life bors would have made ideal emigration destinations for Egypt's aspect. Middle Israelis, like this writer, who after returning from exploding population, if it weren't Lebanon in 1982 demonstrated against their government's adventures there, are sufficiently sensitive to lend an ear to Arab leaders who decry what they see as an infringement of Palestinian rights. However, when we notice that the chain-saw beheadings of 90 Algerian villagers and the throatslitting of 50 others just last week, along with the rest of that civil

elicit no remotely similar response, we wonder what the Arab League's real agenda is. One need not be a political scien-tist to understand that the Arab League is dodging the Algerian crisis because it's scared stiff of Islamist militants, because it knows that the Islamic Salvation Front has a real case, and because it realizes that that case happens to be called democracy, since that organization was robbed - by the army - of its

war's 60,000 easualties so far,

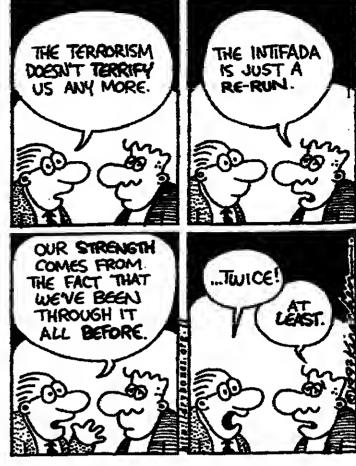
electoral gains in 1992. Similarly, the Arab League doesn't bother exploring the deformed distribution of resources and wealth among its 22 members. Had it done so, it might have given thought to the basic imbalance of the Arab world, which is that its mineral-rich eountries are also the ones that are most sparseSaudi Arabia and its Gulf neigh-

for their selfish preference for millions of transient workers, predominantly South Asians. Another worthwhile endeavor would be to compel Arab oil producers to cease to deposit the bulk of their petrodollars in Western banks. where they fuel growth anywhere except in the slums where millions of Arabs languish and fundamentalists flourish.

Obviously, tackling such formidable issues would be a herculean task even for the best-intentioned organization. But being the same lightweight Israel has learned to know - and ignore - since its inception, the Arab League neglects the real problems which hannt, plague and divide the Middle East, and prefers instead to engage in escapism, and focus on the famously free-of-charge business of Israel-bashing.

Yet to be taken seriously by any one in the West - particularly by pro-compromise Israelis such as this one - the Arab League might do well to at least openly discuss, if not effectively provide, the Arab world's most pressing needs, i.e. those which have nothing to do with Har Homa, and everything to do with the employment, housing, security and dignity of some 200 million non-Palestinian Arabs.

Dry Bones



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Donations

By BEVERLEE BLACK

haven't got the exact figures, but I'll bet you that thousands of senior citizens are "breaking the law." How come? Lack of resources, or as they used to say, poverty.

Senior eitizens used to receive a blue card entitling them to 50 percent discounts on a number of services, including television license fees. The television, for many of. Shlesman for Hersbel Ben-Bryna and Elifahu. Ben-Rachel Esther Ben-Yasede J'lm. In thanks - Shirley Katz. our older and lenely citizens living in substandard accommodations. is their only form of "entertainment" and communication with wbat's happening outside their

The governmenthas canceled Pensioners are now required to pay NIS 246, and in a few months time will have to pay approxi-mately another NIS 300.

front door.

l know from running The Jerusalem Post Funds for the past 13 years, that our disadvantaged old folk can in no way pay this sum - they barely bave enough money for food and medications. So, they are "breaking the law,"

by watching television without a valid license. Please rush your donations - apart from paying the television license there are many other important needs to help them

Send your ehecks to: The Jerusalem Post Funds, P.O. Box 81, Jerusalem 91000. Our new phone number is 02-537-6528. Donors in the United States

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A VIEW FROM NOV



By MOSHE KOHN

You're fighting a losing battle," a colleague told me. He was referring to the verbal persecution to which I and other nudniks

like me subject mediacrats and propagandists who peddle lies and distortions about the eight-decade-old bloody Arab-Jewish

I replied that this conflict is one in which our lives - the lives of individual Jews and the life of the Jewish state - are at stake, so we must keep on resisting.

I added that I am aware that, in the light of experience, we do not really expect to inspire those hawkers of canards to mend their words. Our bope is to provide our readers with the means of recognizing those fabrications and with ammunition to expose them and their disseminators.

Sometimes, as in the instance of a recidivist like Nanonal Geographic magazine, we bave inspired subscribers to write to the editor, and, failing to get a proper response, to cancel their subscription - or as that pretentious journal prefers to call it, their "membership" in the National

Geographic Society. Two more people who inform me they have done so are Isaac Anidjar of Rishon Lezion and Menahem Rosen of Oranit Rosen urges the launching of a worldwide campaign to eure NG of its dyslexia

regarding Israel and the Jews. I don't suppose that we nudniks inspire enough such actions to worry the publishers. Perhaps, however, we will eventually inspire them on ethical grounds to discourage their writers from twisting their

Middle East travelogues by their factual omissions and choice of words.

Lies, distortions and fantasies

Meanwhile, knowing how consistently unreliable NG has been regarding the subject we know so well, I wonder bow much credence we ought to give its coverage of other subjects.

SOMETIMES MEDIACRATS respond to criticism civilly and substantively.

A while ago, I pointed to some shortcomings of Insight Guide: Jordan. I did so with the belp of Jerusalem tourist guide/lecturer Walter Zanger, who had sent the publisher an extensively detailed cri-

Nathan P. Baker of Walnut Creek, California, followed up my article by writing to the publisher and sending them a eopy of my colomn. Alan Andres, associate director of Guidebook Publishing, Houghton Mifflin, Boston, replied to

"It is my understanding that every effort was taken by the original Apa publication editors to make this book as historically accurate as possible, yet ancient history is open to interpretation... [T]he charges you brought to our attention in the Post article will be seriously reviewed prior to the next

printing of the book..." Andres referred our critiques to the guide's editor, Dorothy Stannard, who wrote to Baker: "I will be asking our Israel-based eorrespondent, Simon Griver... to examine particular criticisms

made by Moshe Kohn and Walter Zanger... when we next update." Meanwhile, Alan Andres, it is not a matter of "interpretation" - to eite just two

examples - when a country called "Jordan" entered history: balf a century ago, not, as Insight Guide suggests, 40 eenturies ago; and whether Jerusalem's Old City is "set in the middle of a wide plain" or amid hills. Andres added that "Jordanian objections

to the book were much more severe than anything that appeared in The Jerusalem The Jordanian Ministry of

Information banned the importation of the book, complaining "of an enormous anti-Arab bias." For example, it requested the deletion of "lines like '1969: Terrorist acts against Israel increase."

CNN'S RJZ Khan is one of the more intelligent and fair television anchormen. He hosts CNN's Question & Answer program in which be interviews public figures and refers to them questions phoned, faxed, or e-mailed to Atlanta, CNN's bome, by viewers from all over the world.

A recent interviewee was Saeb Erekat, top Palestinian National Authority negotiator. Kban asked him what be thought of the idea of Jerusalem as a divided capital. "like some other places are."

Erekat gave the expected reply. I e-mailed Khan asking him to name any of those "other places."

NOT ONLY foreign correspondents but also local mediacrats, including those of

Palestinian National Authority never conquered some of the areas in the war it lost those areas to us in another aggres-

Before 1948 they were under British control, preceded by Ottoman control, and so on back to the control of the Jews, who

their place in history.

Israel Radio and Television, in both English and Hebrew, speak of our socalled redeployments as "returning areas to Palestinian control." The areas of Judea and Samaria whose governance we are surrendering, and are

sive war.

If he bas replied, I don't know of it.

yet committed to surrender, to the

Righteous sinner

gave those areas their historical names and

belonged to an entity called "Palestine." They were under the occupation and gov-Jordan between 1948, when that eountry

ernance of the Hashemite Kingdom of they launebed against us, and 1967, when

At most, one can say that individual plots of land belong or belonged to individuals

awake, O Palestinel / Zionists, leave our THE BRITISH authorities tried "to maintain amicable relations between" the Jews

wbo today identify themselves as

MANY ISRAELI Arabs participated in the

March 30 anti-Israel Land Day demonstra-

Israel TV showed one group of them marching to the ebant, in Arabic: "Awake,

Palestinian.

and Arabs in Mandalory Palestine. Thus fantasizes Robert Stewart in The Illustrated Almanac of Historical Facts from the Dawn of The Christian Era to the New World Order (Prentice Hall):

That may be a New Age fact, but it is largely a historical fiction. Stewart goes on to tell us that despite

those alleged British efforts, "terrorism and rioting approached open warfare by 1938." He is referring to the so-called

What be does not tell us is that the perpetrators of this "terrorism and rioting" were the gangs of cold-blooded murderers led by some Husseinis and sueb Palestinian heroes as Izeddin Kassam. During those three years they slew 520 Jews and 60 British security men and eivilians. The number of Arab casualties is estimated at between 3,000 and 6,000, most of whom were murdered by assassins from rival Arab gangs, clans and parties, many others by British security forces, and some by Jews after the Yishuv temporarily forsook its policy of havlaga/self-restraint. (See Documents and Portraits from the Arab Gangs' Archives in the Arab Revolt in Palestine, 1936-1939, Hebrew, second edition, edited by Ezra Danin and Ya'acov Shimoni, Jerusalem, 1981).

(Thanks to Moshe Kahan of Efrata, editor of Yiddishkeit magazine.)

SHABBAT SHALOM



By SHLOMO RISKIN

"And the Lord spoke to Moses and Aaron, saying: 'When a man [adam] shall have in the skin of his flesh a swelling, a scab or bright spot, and it be ... the plague of tzara'at." (Lev. 13:1-2)

n order for an individual to be deemed righteous, is it necessary that he never commit a serious sin?

A difficult expression in this week's Torah portion sheds light on the true definition of right-COUSDESS. The Netziv, in his work Ha'amek Davar, delves into the

phrase nega tzara'at, describing a

skin eruption which can bring

isolation and/or a diagnosis of ritual impurity if a priest rules that

the blemish is a result of slanderous talk. If this is true, asks the Netziv, isn't it strange that the Toxah addresses the victim of tzara'at with the appellation adam? After all, of the four expressions for human being - enosh, gever, ish

and adam - the most laudatory is

adam. Adam was the most Godlike of all buman beings, and the use of the word adam recalls him - hardly the way we'd refer

Rabbi Nisan Alpert, of Yeshiva University, once explained this usage to me. We generally attribute greatness to a person if we believe be or she is free of character defects; but every rational being knows that

recognizing one's weaknesses and striving to improve. From this vantage point, the worst sin is that of complacency and the most significant mitzva is

there is no person who has not

sinned! Greatness depends on

repentance A skin malady can easily be covered up. Calling him adam is how the Torah lets us know that the sufferer has nonetheless recognized an inner fault, and seeks

Support for this approach can be found two verses later. "The priest shall confine [shut up] the plague seven days..." (Lev. 13:4). According to Rashi, this means that the afflicted individual must be isolated. But the Tur, quoting his father the Rosh, points out that the phrase v'hisgir et banega refers to the plague and not to the

Had the Torah wanted us to isolate the person, the grammatical form should have been nagu'a, and not nega, as our text reads. Hence the Tur understands that the scab was isolated from the rest of the body by baving a special dye applied to the infected area. Marking the exact spot allowed the priest at the next determine examination whether the scab bad spread expansion being the grounds for declaring impurity.

But how did Rashi understand the fact that the biblical usage is "plague" (nega) rather than "the one who was afflicted" (nagu'a)? If indeed the Torah means that the person was to be confined, why doesn't it say so explicitly?

Rashi may have understood that a person should not be defined by his sins. He may have a nega (plague), but we dare not describe him only as "the nagu'a" (the one afflicted). Obviously you can't isolate the nega without taking along the person affected, but the wording implies that we have to make a distinction between the plague and the one who is

plagued. This concept clarifies the difference between a religious system that burdens mankind with original sin as opposed to one that recognizes the possibility (and even necessity) of sin while never forgetting the potential for redemption.

The lives of King David and King Saul illustrate these two approaches. Both committed sins. and yet their stamp on history is totally different. Saul committed the almost understandable sins of impatience and misdirected compassion, and yet the kingship was torn away from bim.

In contrast, David seemingly eommitted adultery with Bathsheba and bad her busband killed in battle, but is nevertheless regarded as the prototype for the Messiah.

The difference lies in the reaction of each to the one who chastised him. Saul's sins seem mild in comparison to David's. When the prophet Samuel questioned his lack of patience and resolution, Saul explained: "Because I saw that the people were scattermg from me, and that you came not within the days appointed.... (1 Samuel 13:11). It was their fault, it was your fault - but it

wasn't my fault, he seemed to

Sanl's second sin involved misplaced compassion for the king of Amalek and their possessions. Saul had been warned by Samuel to kill King Agag and obliterate all the livestock. Yet he saved the king's life - as well as the bealthy

attempted to justify his looting of the livestock by describing it as "the compassion of the nation ... in order to make sacrifice to the Lord your God" (ibid. 15; 13-15).

sion, he misused his power in order to send a rival to almost

When Nathan the prophet heard of David's actions, be related the tale of two farmers, one wealthy and one so poor that he possessed only a solitary ewe. One day an important guest visits the rieb farmer, who has the poor farmer's

tion!" thundered King David. "You are that man," responds

prophet Nathan "And David said to Nathan, "I have sinned before the Lord." (II Samuel 12:5-13). In all Masoretie versions of the Bible, there follows an empty space; at that moment, interprets the Vilna Gaon, King David wordlessly

To err is human; to seek repentance is to be forgiven by the Shabbat Shalom

When confronted by Samuel, he first duplicitously declared that be had carried out God's command and then lamely

Compare these self-serving justifications to David's heartwrenching repentance. Indeed. David's crime was the more heinous; driven by sexual pas-

eertain death.

ewe slaughtered. "As the Almighty lives, the man wbo did that is worthy of execu-

sobbed in repentance.

INTERNATIONAL EDITION

ce vehicles, instead of h trance to the Ayalon high lashing, was right on by as full. The driver being f my car, still beeping in if I had driven fast.

There seemed to be a r a gap in the traffic wit.

needed them? Where we haved in this life-threate g blue lights? 10 will have an impana n as an experienced dring these days I feel as if he Crods. Bertie Obayou as

The Jerusalem Por

call

Assaeli at four o'clock is each quarters in Kfar San

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f drivers see a police care of few kilometers, they not have differently. Shustan a to police's task is to enforce to currail the death following educate davers. Educate s is the task of other books urally we will work in one a with them." After his initial shock, Tokke cruck driver was happy box

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ish Quarter, Old City, ner Halachot, 10am Saffai, Paula Fredrise les Yvonne Friedman seer Aviezer Ravisky Schwerz, Jeffrey Wos



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Nin Bund day, April 30 May l. 1887 The section of the The state of the s A CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF TH CONTRACTOR OF SECURIT Wind President

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EXCEL TO THE LOWER TH CARE TOTAL CONTROL

A familiar routine for Netanyahu

By MICHAL YUDELMAN

The routine is gettiog familiar. Prime Mioister Binyamin Netanyahu is summoned ("invited" lo diplomatic language) to Washiogtoo "in a last-ditch effort to avert the crisis threatening to destroy the peace process.

The media work op a froth of speculation on what President Bill Clinton will tell Netanyahu; analysts ponder the amount of "pressure" necessary to drive him back from the wilds of Har Homa to the Oslo track. There were straws in the

wind. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright took a firm tone at her meeting with Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, making clear her displeasure over the construction in the settlements.

Nelanyahu, tno, played his familiar role - scoffing increduinusly at all the speculation, which he called "a media iovention.

The United States has no intention of "pressuring" Israel and "we don't work in an atmosphere of pressure."

After the meeting with Clinton, Netanyahu emerged smiling with confidence, issuing the readymade statements that "there were no pressures, no threats."

just restated nur principles -"building in Har Homa will continue and huilding in the settlements will continue.

The meeting was "good,

SRULIK

No PRESSURE ?!

NO THREATS ?!

frieodly and effective" between "two frieodly states and partners and two leaders with a similar cause." To watch him slipping through his repertoire of sound bites it was almost believable that there was no crisis, no threat to the peace process, no possibility of the home front sliding back to guos and stones and blood.

It was barely noticed that a grim-faced Clinton described the talks as "honest, open and lengthy." But as long as the Americans seemed willing to preserve diplomatic decorum, Netanyahu's version remained undisputed.

Well, there's always the hack door where the real news emerges. Sure enough and on cue the following day, the American media came out with the real Washingtoo evaluation from their White House sources. As io the past, it bore little resemblance in the official Israeli line.

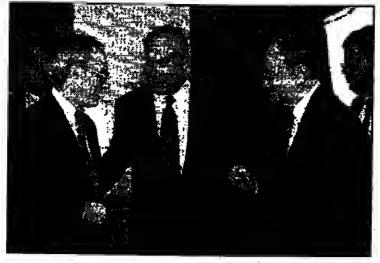
The summit failed, coocluded the leading American newspapers. "No progress" in a "process that isn't moving." The meeting hetweeo Netanyahu and Clinton was "barsb."

No agreement was reached and the fate of the peace process is shrouded io dangerous uncertainty. Clinton failed in all efforts to return Israel and the Palestinians to the negntiating table, said Washington.

described the Clinton-Netanyahu

NOT EVEN A LITTLE

SQUEEZING 21 ..



FEATURES

Prime Minister Netanyahu tries to woo American Reform and Conservative Jewish leaders.

American

YEAH YEAH, BROTHER

Another "information" cam-

paign which fell flat oo its face

was Netanyahu's attempt to woo

Cooservative Jewish leaders a

week after the Knesset's first

reading of the "conversion law."

These leaders, representing some

90 percent of American Jewry,

were fuming. The law disquali-

fies their cooversions in Israel,

undermines their rabbis' authori-

They were waiting anxiously

tn see if Netanyahu would make

any effort to rehabilitate their

coofidence in Israel. He was

by Dosh

WAIT! I FORGOT!

WHEN PARTING, BILL

DIDN'T ASK HIM TO

SIGN HIS CAST ...

tv. and in effect classifies them

as second-class Jews.

Reform

talks io stripped-down and unvarnished terms, eschewing any diplnmatic niceties such as

'optimiatic" or "positive." The Washington sources said that although they had slashed their expectations of Netanyahu to a bare minimum, he still did not agree to a single request from Clinton to get the peace process back on civil terms.

Within hours these detailed reports appeared in the Israeli For all the criticism of journal-

iats, the reports proved once again that even faulty media can trusted more than smonth-Spokeaman Nicholas Burns talking politicians to tell the

their convection. Pleading a tooheavy schedule, he declined.

But Reform and Conservative leaders hope the conversion law may yet turn to their advantage. Some Jewish federations have already decided to divert their contributions from the United Jewish Appeal and Jewish Agency directly to Reform and Conservative institutions in Israel.

TIME WARP

the arrow of time moves forward and it may be impossible to go backwards. You could have

Riots in Hebron, televisioo screeos filled with intifada scenes of stones and rubber bullets. Along the way, three Palestinians were killed and over a hundred were wounded, as

back down some tunoel of time towards the 1980s while the rest of the world began a 1,000-day conotdown to the new millennium. Amidst the smoke clouds, rocks and gunfire OC Intelligence Maj.-Geo Moshe Ya'aloo "Boogie" Palestinian security chief Jihril

Rajoub exchanged accusations And the prime minister? He zipped hack from Washingtoo

invited to be the main speaker at

The schedule was oot too heavy, however, for him to appear at a fundamentalist Christian Bible Belt rally, where he was assured of a warm welcome. "These Christians don't oeed the Lubavitcher Rebbe," commented Yediot Aharonot's Nahum Barnea.

"They can be satisfied with a fluent synthetic messiah like our Bibi. They treated him as they do their tele-messiahs, with cries of 'yeah, yeah,' applause, and a raising of hands." Netanyahu did meet a group nf 15 Refnrm and Conservative rabbis, hut failed to convince them of the need to impose an Orthodox conversion law in a democratic state.

"If Israel wishes to be the center of the Jewish wnrld, it must be Jewish; it cannot afford to be Orthodox," Dr. Ismar Schorsch, chancellor of the Jewish Theological Seminary, told bim.

The leaders think that until oow Jewish American money went mostly to finance what one called a "corrupt, coercive and anti-democratic religious establishment." Perhaps it can now be used to finance an education network, day-care centers and cultural activities, said local Reform and Conservative rabbis.

Cosmologists speculate that fooled Israelis.

were dozeos of Israelis.

Surely the nation was hurtling

for long eoough to pick up the wife and kids and headed off

Cutting a fine figure

By GREER FAY CASHMAN

GRAPEVINE

n international mayoral conference is obviously a much more formal affair in the Czech Republic than it is in Israel. This would explain why Pilsen Mayor Zdenek Prosek was the only person at the opening reception of the 17th Jerusalem Conference of Mayors wearing a wing-collared shirt, black bow-tie and a satin-faced shawl-collared tuxedo. Although he cut a very fine figure, the guest exciting just a little more attention was former Miss Venezuela, Irene Saez, who is currently mayor of Chacao.

AN AILING Teddy Kollek climbed out of his wheelchair to stand at the microphone to pay tribute to deceased photojournalist Tim Gidal on the opening night of the Jerusalem International Book Fair. A posthumous exhibition of Gidal's work demonstrates his uncanny talent for synthesizing news with art. Ilan Greenfield, one of the directors of Gefeo Publishing House which sponsored the show, said that when he had first met Gidal he had decided not to work with him because be was too demanding. Since then, Gefen bad published two of Gidal's 23 books. Others present included Gidal's wife and partner Pia, fellow photographer and Israel Prize laureate David Rubinger, publishers Eri Steimatsky and Racheli Edelman, Cinematheque director and Racheli Lia Van Leer and Fred Gronick, who served with Kollek in the War of Independence.

BRITISH AMBASSADOR David Manning, together with Harley Brookes, director of the British Council, bosted a reception to honor British participants in the Jerusalem Book Fair, in particular, Frank Cass, whose company is celebrating 40 years of publishing. Urging British publishers to "keep fighting the screen," Manning, who loves books, welcomed the opportunity to get away from his

Recalling that these receptions. had been started by Manning's immediate predecessor Andrew Burns, Cass observed that Burns had a brother-in-law who was a publisher, whereas Manning has a wife who is an author. Cass's projection for the future of the book was "another huodred years at least."

RIGHTEOUS GENTILE and former Polish foreign minister Władysław Bardoszewski, whose books were on display at the Polish stand at the Jerusalem Book Fair,

happily embraced Stefan Grajek, head of the World Federation of Polish Jews, at a reception hosted by Polish Ambassador Wojciech Adamiecki. Bardoszewski, whom Grajek calls "the symbol of humanity," was imprisoned by the Communists in the early 1980s. He was released when Grajek, who was in Poland to deliver an address at the commemoration ceremony of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising, refused to speak while he remained incarcerated.

Also amongst the hundreds present at the reception were artist Josef Bau, one of the Jews on



Sexier than Bibi: Pnina Rosenblum's head for business may lead her into politics. (Hanoch Grizitzky/Israel Snn)

Schindler's list, Israel's ambassador-designate to Poland Yigal Antebi, Mordechai Paltzur, Israel's first ambassador to Poland after the resumption of diplomatic ties, and Peretz Unikowski, president of the Israel-Poland Friendship League.

NOW THAT she's proved that she's got a good head for husiness, former model and cosmetics queen Pnina Rosenblum has announced her intention to throw her hat into the political arena. She is set to run as an independent in the next elec-

ಡ ಕ್ರಿಗ್ರಾಕ್ಕ್ ಡಿ

Secretary resi

Believing herself to be more capable than Binyamin Netanyahu, she may even aim for the premiership. She has a lot more. sex appeal than any of his other opponents. The question is: will she use it on the campaign trail?

WE LOVED to hate her as Queen Bitch Alexis Carrington in Dynasty, and now we're going to be treated to a new dose of Joan colums's canioe charisma in Pacific Palisades. The ever glamorous and age-defying Collins will have a lead role in the new soap opera but for the time being her character is under wraps.

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 5 Smart kind of beer (6) 8 What about hooter that may blossom? (8) 9 Sense and Sensibility (7)
- 10 Loafer hiding in torrid 11 Pair of drawers with one
- swinging.leg? (9) 13 Bear twina and think nothing of it (4-4) 14 Man is nne, nntwith-standing Donne's assertion
- 17 Dated half-dollar changed 19 Fitting Pat out (3) 20 Fair game for band visiting
- city (4-2) 23 Sailor given various chores

26 Fabrioua Lady Green

- turned out (9) 28 Poorest English opener in final (5)
- 29 Coffee substitute provided by elegant Circle Line (7) 30 Salt put into empty
- crustacean that clings (8) 31 Kipling's boy at school was tall and slender (6)

DOWN

- I Small child carrying a pair
- of pincers (6) given grant to drink (7)
- Kitty? (9)

- 2 South Wales shortly to be 3 Eddy's giddinesa nver
- 4 Forces affecting painting on walls (6)

husiness-hou 12 Lawman of resistance? (3) 15 Plnt second party policy 16 Rather a lot, eh? (8)

18 Tiller girls in the second row? (4,4)

5 Maans to keep Cotswolds clean (5-3)

6 Reversible parts? (5)

7 Interests

- 21 Common glass of beer can be a shock (3) 22 Novel Menorca resort (7)
- 24 Taking the car, not the principal way (6) 25 Intense dislike of biretta, say, on cardinal (6)
- 27 Go heyond forty in Rome, would you say? (5)

SOLUTIONS

- ACROSS: 1 Jamb, 3 Tomorrow, 9 Algol, 10 Officer, 11 Sag, 13 Ostracise, 14 Condor, 16 Adrift, 18 Proximity, 20 Dud, 22 Tbillsi, 23 DOWN: 1 Jeans, 2 Ming, 4 Oporto, 5 Offhand, 6 Rectified, 7 Warmest, 8 Clio, 12 Gondoller, 14 Capital, 16

QUICK CROSSWORD

- ACROSS Riches (6) Sang through close lips (6) Knick-knacks (4-1-4)
- Eye infection (4) 10 Pillage (4) 11 Gem from oyster 13 In recent times (6) 14 Frame of mind (6)
- 15 Paralyse (6) 17 Broad street (6) 19 Army chaplain (5) 20 Lecherous look (4) 22 Finished (4) 23 Formal party (9) 24 Consternation (6)
- DÓWN 1 Sly person (6) 2 Collective
- knowledge (4) 3 Ball game (6) 4 Capital of Tasmania (6) 5 Repast (4) 6 Medical
- practitioner (6) Onlooker (9) Comrade (9) 11 Chubby (5) 12 Depart (5) 15 Narrative song (6) 16 Bread-shop (6)
- 17 Extremely cold (6) 18 Vigour (6) 21 20 quires (4) 22 Soft feathers (4)

L'expression personnelle



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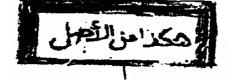
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BUSINESS&FINANCE

HIGH TECH

in brief

Alex. Brown delegation arrives in Israel

A special Alex. Brown delegation arrived in Israel earlier this week, headed by president Mayo A. Shannck III. Alex. Brown and Giza are jointly hosting a conference for Israeli growth companies in the technology, communications and medical fields. Giza, a Tel Aviv-based investment bank, represents Alex. Brown's activity in Israel.

Alex: Brown serves as the investment banker for Scitex and ECI Telecom, and was involved in ECI's acquisition of Telematics and Scitex's acquisition of its digital video and digi-

ECI Telecommunications reiterated 'buy'

ECI Telecommunications was reiterated a "buy" by Lehman Brothers. ECI of Petah Tikva develops digital telecommunications equipment. The company recently announced a \$58m. deal with British Telecom, an estimated \$30m. sole supplier agreement with Belgian Belgacom and its participation in a \$60m. joint venume in China.

Geotek responds to recent drop in share price

Geotek Communications Inc., a New Jersey-based company with local R&D facilities, said in a statement that it "knows of no fundamental reason for the recent decline in [its] stock price."
The company said that the recent 13% drop in share price does not accurately reflect current demand for its products or the fact

that the company met its first-quarter targets.

Since the beginning of April, the company's share price has fallen from \$5 to \$4.375. Meanwhile, the company also announced plans to launch a Tampa, Florida network that will concentrate on providing fleet managers with wireless voice and data services. Geotek is targeting more than 22,000 businesses in

NetXchange teams up with Netscap

NetXchange Communications has announced that it has teamed up with Netscape to ensure future compatibility between NetXchanges' Web fax technology and the Netscape Navigator

Internet Xchange for Fax is now available through the Netscape Navigator browser as well as other Internet access programs. NetXchange's Internet Xchange for Fax allows users to send faxes directly from Netscape Navigator, either from their desktop or a remote location.

Oscar Gruss gives Orckit 'buy' rating

Oscar Gruss & Son Inc. has initiated its coverage of Orckit Communications Ltd. shares with a "buy" recommendation. Orckit's digital subscriber line products are used by telephone firms to provide digital services over existing infrastructure.

Team Computers wins NIS 1.5m. deal

Team Computers won a NIS 1.5 million contract to supply the Health Ministry with a national information system designed for healthcare professionals: Based in Petah Tikva, Team's subsidiaties include TTI Team Telecom International Ltd., which develops software for the telecommunications industry.

Tecnomatix reiterated 'buy'

Lehman Brothers reiterated its "buy" recommendation for Tecnomatix Technologies Ltd. Based in Herzliya, Tecnomatix develops production engineering software.

The company recently announced an agreement with Structural Dynamics Research Corp. to provide software products and maintenance services to the Ford Motor Company. Tecnomatix estimates that the agreement could generate sales of up to \$22m. through 1999. The agreement will generated \$6.8m. in initial revenue. In October, the company signed a \$10m. deal with Mazda Motor of Japan.

Compiled by Jennifer Friedlin

PM's Office: Economic plan must exclude tax hike

Industrialists: Cut budget, raise VAT, reduce interest rates

By DAVID HARRIS and Jerusalem Post Staff

There is no way Israel can afford a new round of tax hikes, despite the economy's slowdown, a senior source in the Prime Minister's Office said yesterday. That statement came as the Bank of Israel reported a further slowing in the economy, the Manufacturers Association offered the government a set of economic suggestions, and the Treasury braced for a week of deliberations that may produce a stimulus package for the sagging economy.

The stance expressed by the Netanyahu aide is believed to represent the prime minister's views, particularly considering the attacks to which he was subjected after raising taxes in the fall in violation of his election promises not to hike taxes.

The slowdown which characterized activity in the industrial, construction and hotel sectors in the closing months of 1996 continued into the first quarter of this year, according to the quarterly Bank of Israel business

The slowdown, which has been mainly registered in domestic demand, has yet to end, even after seasonal factors have been taken into account, added the central bank's research section, which compiled the findings.

In the industrial sector, falling sales were recorded for the second consecutive quarter, with exports having remained steady for the past 12 months.

Those surveyed reported falls in number of employees, stock



Propper: Increase VAT.

Trading companies spoke of a decline in business, but not one of any significance. Creditbased sales declined a little on the previous quarter, but are still considered to be at a relatively high level.

Building start-ups appear to have decreased, with a large number of companies reporting a decline in demand.

Some 71 percent of hotels reported a decline in usage in comparison to the same period last year. This is the third consecutive quarter in which a decline has been recorded.

These statistics are based on a survey of 609 companies.

Manufacturers Association President Dan Propper yesterday proposed the government adopt a set of measures aimed at jumpstarting the economy. These moves include a sharp interestrate cut, a universal freeze on levels, and equipment utilization. public-sector hiring, a propor-



Netanyahu: No new taxes.

tionate budget-cut in all government agencies, and a one-percentage point increase in value added tax, Propper said.

However, Treasury officials say there is no room for fresh cuts in public spending, given the ongoing economic slowdown.

Finance Minister Dan Meridor, Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky, and Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel are working out their final negotiating positions before the first 1997 economic "summit" meeting between them, slated for the Prime Minister's Office Sunday afternoon.

The three have agreed to meet Faced with these data, at the end of each quarter this year to examine the economy as a whole and in particular the budget, to ensure government targets are being met.

Faced with an overall budget deficit in the first quarter of some NIS 1.2 billion (a figure that was revised this week after

earlier published estimates). Treasury staff are concerned a substantial cut will only heighten the cconomic slowdown, while the Prime Minister's Office believes increasing the tax burden will have the same

While there is a view in the Treasury - most vocally espoused by former director-general David Brodet - that any budget cut can only be made simpltaneously with a substantial reduction in interest rates, a senior Bank of Israel sonrce countered yesterday that the two are unrelated. "Interest rates are not part of an economic package, but a way of checking inflation," said the source.

However, Hebrew University public finance Prof. Eitan Sbeshinski maintains a combined approach is crucial. The bank must alter interest rates and the exchange rate "in the direction that everyone is speaking of. On the fiscal side, a carefully monitored degree of taxation is required, but only a negligible cut in spending, if at all."

The budget deficit, which comprises a domestic NIS 500 million and a foreign NIS 700m., principally consists of a shortfall in revenues rather that excesses in expenditure. (The foreign deficit matches government predictions and will be offset later in the year by US aid.)

This income should have come from areas which are "a function of growth," such as real-estate taxation, according to Accountant-General Shai Talmon.

This reflects fears in the Prime Minister's Office that increasing taxation will only add to the economic slowdown. While not

Currency (deposit for:) U.S. dolar (\$250,000) Pound starting (£100,000) German mark (DM 200,000) Swiss franc (SF 200,000) Yen (10 million yen)

ISPACE MONEY MARKETS

Patah (foreign currency deposit rates) (11.9.96)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (10.4.97)

CHECKS AND

TRANSFERS

B MONTHS

openly calling for public-expen-diture savings, Netanyahu's advisers will not rule such a move out of hand. "Saying there is no room to cut is very theoretical," said the source in Netanyahu's office. "I'm not saying we will make cuts in defense, education or health. The source of the cut will be discussed only if we decide to cut."

While Frenkel is refusing to offer direct advice in public on fiscal policy, a central bank source said yesterday it is vital for the government's credibility that the deficit is reined in. "For two years the government has failed to meet its deficit targets," said the source.

Now is the time to start zero budgeting," Hebrew University economist Ephraim Kleiman said yesterday. That would require each ministry to justify every shekel it spends, with their budgets beginning at wbat is called a zero-base. "Meridor is facing two real problems - he fears that cuts will take the economy, which is jittering on the edge of recession, into a deep recession, and, second, while he supports a cut, none of the other ministers agree, Kleiman said.

The 1997 NIS 190 billion state budget passed on December 31 already includes a NIS 7.2b. deficit-reduction package, twothirds of which is in cuts and the remainder in increased taxation. The budget is meant to produce an annual deficit of no more than 2.8% of Gross Domestic Product, Initial Treasury and academic estimates, based on the first quarter, put the total 1997 figure at some 3.3% to

5.375 4.250 2.125

Rep. Rates*
3.8986
3.8980
1.9780
5.4984
0.5876
2.6971
1.7589
2.3086
0.4415
0.5194
0.6635
2.4370
0.9585
2.0041
4.8950
1.0179
3.8651
5.2575
2.3404

Gov't backs public sector wage limits

By DAVID HARRIS

The government will next week approve the plan to legislate against excessive public sector pay, even if no compromise is reached between Binyamin Netanyahu's economic adviser Moshe Leon said yesterday.

Finance Minister Dan Meridor and senior Union officials lead by Chairman Adi Eldar are scheduled to meet early next week to discuss the Treasury's intention of coming down heavily on public sector employees in receipt of salaries higher than the government-set guidelines allow.

Last Friday's cabinet meeting, at

the request of Prime Minister's lic sector representatives, was Office director-general Avigdor sparked by Labor Agreements Lieberman, decided to delay Director Yossi Kucik's third annual approval of Meridor's proposals Public Bodies Salaries Report. until the two sides had met. At least Meridor wants to see the creation three ministers have expressed reservations about the Meridor package salary levels in various occurrence. Foreign Minister David Levy, Interior Minister Eli Suissa, and

Transport Minister Yitzhak Levy. Angered by the failure to approve the measures, senior Treasury officials accused Lieberman of placing party politics first, with many of the municipalities in Likud control and local elections just a year away. Lieberman is refusing to comment on the issue.

This, the latest in a series of dis-putes between the Treasury and pub-

funded bodies, a unit of investigators and economists to prepare legal actions, and an inter-ministerial committee to decide on the formulation of fresh legislation.

In practical terms, the Treasury is proposing to withhold grants and funding from bodies. In some instances, credit approval will not be awarded. Sanctions will be imposed on those in breach of the law, including removal from their positions.

Some of these measures can already be enforced with others to be included in the legislation.

The Kucik report, which referred to 1995, highlighted:

 Sixty-two percent of public-sec tor bodies paid salaries at least 5% higher than the Treasury-set targets. In 1994, that figure was 53%.

 Public-sector wages, especially of senior management, are increasing far too quickly. The country's public sector wage bill totalled NIS 24.2b. in 1995.

• The widening gap between the top earners, such as Israel Electric Corporation senior executives eaming an average gross salary of NIS 41,310 monthly, and the average wage, which stood at NIS 4,207 in December 1995.

 Between 1994 and 1995, public sector wages rose 5.8% in real terms from an average monthly NIS 6,362 to NIS 7,409. Those reporting the the two years are the statutory organizations (8.94%), funded bodies such as universities and health funds

The research covered 250,000 employees in local authorities, religious councils, government and council companies, statutory organizations, and city corporations, but does not include the Civil Service, security bodies, and teachers.

The average wage in the Civil Service is at least double that of local authorities, according to Eldar, who is demanding this area be looked into by Kucik.

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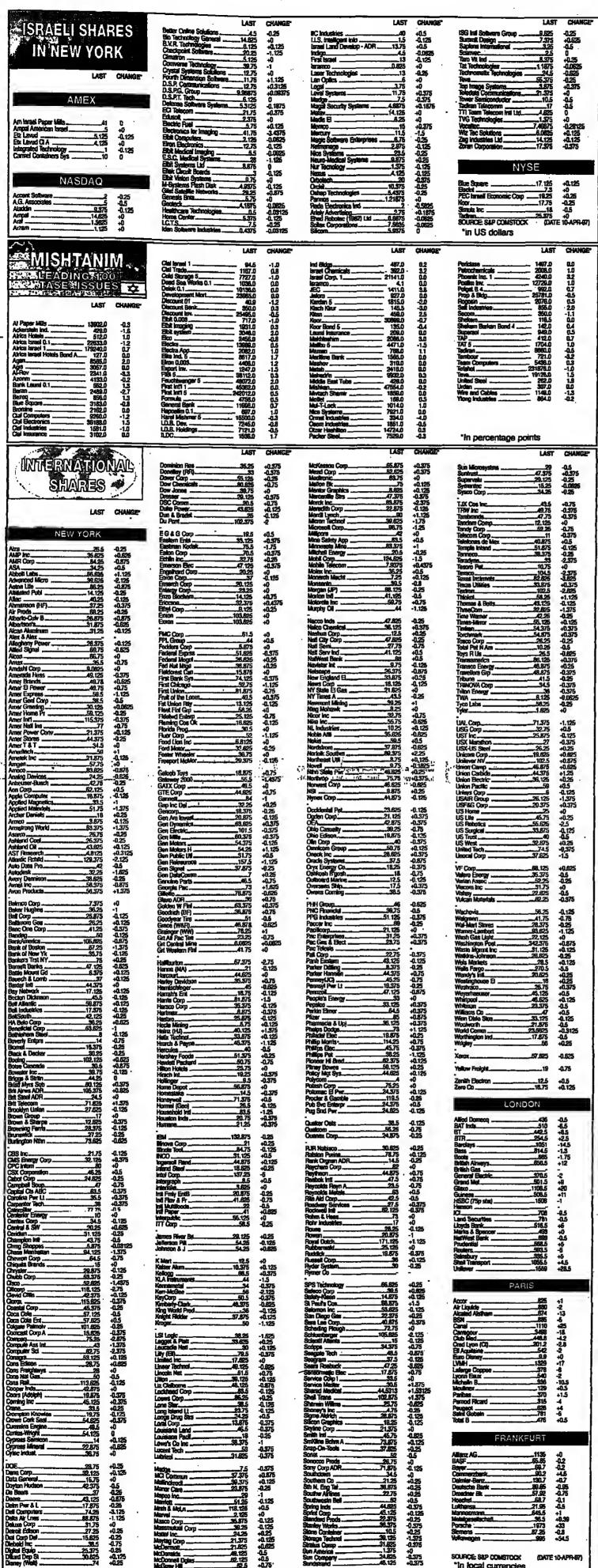
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TASE ROUNDUP

Shares up as shekel down

Mishtanim

252.76 **A** 0.58%

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the market," said Asher Sela, analysi

at Etgar Securities Ltd. 3

261.74 🛦 0.62%

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THE WORLD

By ROBERT DANIEL

Stock indexes rose as the shekel weakened further yesterday, boding well for the country's exporters, analysts said.

The Mishtanim index was up 0.58 percent to 252.76, while the Maof index gained 0.62% to 261.74. For the week, the indexes rose 0.5% and 0.4% respectively.

"The 2% drop" in the indexes on Wednesday "wasn't enough to change the sentiment," which over-

Key Representative	Rates
US DollarNIS 3.3930	
Sterling NiS 5.4984	
Mark NIS 1.9780	+ 0.11%

NEW YORK MARKET INDEXES

	Last	Change
DJ Industrials	6540.05	-23.79
DJ Transport	2428.9	-3.39
DJ Utte	215.83	+1.75
DJ Como	2086.92	-3.58
NYSE lockstr	502.78	-1,49
MYSE Transport	364.2	-0.11
NYSE Comp	399.36	-0.93
SAP 100	736.41	-3.41
S&P Soot Index	758.32	-2.28

OTHER MARKET INDEXES

7861 1006K	208.78	-5780
DOLLAR CR	OSSRATE	S (US)
	Last	Change
nunct spot	1.6228	+0.0013
meric spot	1,7195	-0.0049
nuture (CME)	0.5845	+0.0023
france spot	1.4885	-0.0105
m.future (CME)	0.6854	+0.0048 -0.98
arc apot	125.85	+6.4e-005
anDir: spot	1.3937	+0.003B
ar. Kuturre (CMIE)	0.7206	-0.0018
IBDIr: apot	0.786	+0.0017
n.kdure (CME)	0.7834	+0.0002

Cocoa (May) (CEC)
Cottee (May) (CEC)
Sugar no.11 (May) (CEC)
Wheat (Jul) (CBOT)
Soytean (Jul) (CBOT)
Crange (May)(CEC)
Crude oil light (May)(CEC)

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SPOT MARKET METALS (US)

NEW YORK METAL FUTURES

LONDON METAL FIXES

DATA COMMUNICATIONS VIA

AB A COMPUTER SYSTEMS LIMITED Foreign financial data courtesy of CommStock Trading Ltd. Futures, Options.

Stocks, Bonds and Mutual Funds 34 Ben Yehuda St., Jerusalem

Tel Aviv shares data

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all is bullish, said Eli Nahum, comanaging director of Zannex Securities in Ramat Gan.

The most active issue was Bank Hapoalim, up 1% to NIS 6.97 on NIS 3.8 million of shares traded. Across the exchange, NIS 75.9m. in shares were traded. That's 26% less than the month's daily average

the year's daily average of NIS 136.4m. About three issues fell for every

of NIS 102.3m. and 44% less than

two that rose.

will for now continue appeamost in investors' thinking. Only the politi-

Analysts say that regional politics

Investors also will be looking toward the consumer price index for March, which will offer chies to the Bank of Israel's interest rate policy. The Central Bureau of Statistics will announce the CPI on Tuesday. Analysis surveyed by Bloomberg

expect the CPI rose about 0.7% for March. The government's recent announcement of a March budget surplus of NIS 188m. triggered speculation that bank Governor Jacob Frenkel may reduce interest (Bloomberg) rates for May.

WORLD MARKET ROUNDUP

UK shares rise, but continental markets weaken

LONDON (Reuter) - European share markets diverged at the Channel yesterday as continental bourses drifted downward while London shares motored higher.

Wall Street's weakness yesterday had little impact as its overnight selloff had already pulled European stocks lower at their open. London quickly rebounded, and France and Germany spent the day hovering at their lower levels.

On the currency markets, the dollar faced a barrage of potentially conflicting comments. US Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin said a strong currency was in US interests and that the country's dollar policy had not

The dollar stabilised after Rubin's

remarks, after stumbling earlier from its 55-month peak against the yen when two top Japanese Ministry of Finance (MOF) officials used tough rhetoric to try to support the yen:

The US currency also edged lower on the day against the mark, despite German officials breaking their conspicuous silence of the last few days, with remarks that they were comfortable with the dollar's high level

German shares fell 0.36 percent by the end of electronic trade, while the Paris bourse closed down 0.37%. London also took an early dip in line with Wall Street's overnight fall, but the FTSE-100 index recovered to end up 20.9 points, or 0.49%, at 4,313.2 points.

WALL STREET REPORT

Stocks fall as investors eye wholesale inflation data

prices closed loweryesterday as investors kept a low profile ahead of today's release of the Producer . Prices Index for March. Based on early and imofficial

data, the Dow Jones industrial

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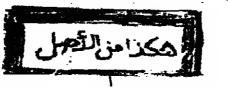
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in shares fell 0.36 percuit of electronic trade, while to turne closed down 037 aise took an early dipnie Il Street's overnight falls E-100 index recovered 20.9 points, or 0.494

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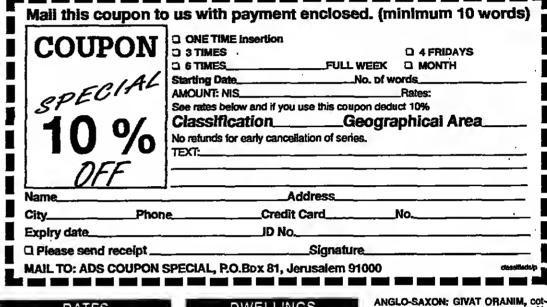
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TEL AVIV MUSEUM OF ART. Soviet Photography from the Museum Collection 'Andres Serrano: The Morgue; 'Zvi Hecker: Sunflower 'Lucian Freud: Works from the early 1940s through the mid-1990s-Portraits - by a group of Israell ertists. Ra'anan Levy: Drawings; Virtuel Reality - the domestic and realistic in contemporary leraeli art. HELEN RUBIN-STEIN PAVILION FOR CONTEMPORARY ART. Shtomo Ben-David and Artnon Ben-David, The Inverted Campatgn. Hours: 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Tue., 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Fri., 10 a.m.-2, p.m., Sai., 10 a.m.-3:p.m. Meyerholf Art Education Center, Tel. 6919155-8.

GENERAL ASSISTANCE

GENERAL ASSISTANCE EMERGENCY PHARMACIES

Friday, April 11 Jerusalem: Jaffe Gate, 628-3898; Shualat, Shualat Roed, 581-0108; Dar Aldawa, Herod's Gata, 628-2058. Tet Aviv: Lev Ha'ir, 69 Ahad Ha'am, 560-

3862; Ahva, 165 Dizengoff, 522-4717. Re'enana-Kfar Sava: Bar-llan, 29 Barllan, Ra'anana, 744-3579. Netan'ya: Neol Shaked, Ezorim Commercial Center, 835-2484. Haifa: Hagiborim, 26 Hagiborim, 823-

Kravot area: Kupat Hollm Clalit Zevulun. 192 Derech Akko, Kiryat Bialik, 878-7818. Herzliya: Cial Pharm, Beit Merkazim, 6 Maskit (cnr. Sderot Hagalim), Herzilya Pituah, 955-8472, 955-8407. Open 9 a.m.

to midnight. Upper Nazareth: Clai Pharm, Lev He'ir Mall, 657-0468. Open 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Saturday, April 12

Jerusalem: [day) Kupat Holim Clalit, Straus A, 3 Avigdori, 670-6660; [evening) Center Pharm, Har Hahotzvim, 586-9744; (day and evening) Balsam, Salah e-Din, 627-2315; Shualar, Shualar Road, 581-0108; Dar Aldawa, Herod's Gate, 628-2058.Tel Aviv: Bloch, 32 Bloch, 522-6425; Superpharm, 40 Einstein, 641-3730. Till midnight: Superpharm Ramat Aviv. 40 Einstain, Ramet Aviv, 641-3730; Superpharm London Ministore, 4 Shaul Hamelech, 696-0115.

Re'anana-Kfar Sava: (day) Haragii, 47 Rothschild, Ktar Sava, 767-0908; (evening) Hagal Heyarok, 8 Haroshet, Industrial Zone, Ra'anana, 748-3537. Netanya: Tzel Arazim, 24 Waizmann,

Halfa: Habankim, 5 Habankim, 851-8005. Krayot area: Kupat Holim Clafit Zevulun, 192 Derech Akko, Kiryat Bialik, 878-7818. Herziiya: Clai Pharm, Belt Merkazim, 6 Maskit (cnr. Sderot Hagalim), Herzliya Pituah, 955-8472, 955-8407. Open 10

a.m. to midnight. Upper Nazareth: Clai Pharm, Lev Ha'ir Mall, 657-0468. Open 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.

DUTY HOSPITALS Friday, April 11

n: Hadassah Ein Kerem (Internal, pediatrics, ophthalmology); Shaare Zedek (surgery); Hadassah Mt. Scopus (orthopedics); Bikur Holim (obstetrics, Tet Aviv: Tel Aviv Medical Center Dana

Pediatric Hospital (pediatrics); Tel Aviv Medical Center (internal, surgery). Netanya: Laniado.

Saturday, April 12 Jerusalem: Hadassah Mt. Scopus (internal, orthopedics); Shaare Zedek (surgery); Hadessah Ein Kerem (obstetnics, ophthalmology); Bikur Holim (pediatrics, ENT). Tel Aviv: Tel Aviv Medical Center Dane Pediatric Hospital (pediatrics); Tel Aviv

Medical Center (Internal, surgery). Netanya: Laniado.

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Rape Crisis Center (24 hours), Tel Aviv 523-4819, 544-9191 (men), Jerusalem 625-5558, Halfa 853-0533, Ellat 633-

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651-4111, 03-548-1133 (also in Russian), 07-637-6310, 08-855-0506 (also in Kupat Hollm Information Center 177-

022-1906, Sunday-Thursday, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday 6 a.m. to 1 p.m. h/Jerusalem Municipal Health Center for Adolescents, 6 Chair SL,

Kiryat Hayovel, Jim. Advice by phone 02-

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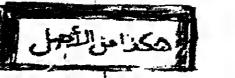
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Report: US will join 3-way training with Israel, Turkey

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

The US has committed its armed forces forces to participate in three-way training with Israeli and Turkish iroops, Defense News reported in its recent issue. US Defense Secretary William Cnhen reportedly pledged the cooperation during bis meeting with Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai last

The commitment is certain to tighten the strategic ties between Jerusalem and Ankara at a time when both nations are concerned about a growing threat from

Iran.
"With Turkey, we want real strategic cooperation, not only trade. Together, and with the support of the US, we will demonstrate how a strong comhined power can deter against any threat in the region,"

in the weekly.
Bui Defense

Ministry spokesman Avi Benayahu downplayed the repart, saying US participation in the joint maneuvers was only discussed in principle and that nothing was settled during Mordechai's meeting with Cohen.

Still, Mordechai has been a strong supporter of US involvement. He raised the matter dur-

Mordechai was quoted as saying ing the visit here earlier this year hy the Turkish Chief of Staff Gen. Ismail Karadayi. At the time, Karadayi appeared open in the idea and told Mordechai that there are many areas where cooperation between the defense establishments could be improved, a sign that the Turkish military is keen on enhancing ties despite oppositinn from Islamist Prime

UN won't counter Palestinian AIDS allegation

After meeting with a delegation of Arab ambassadors, a top UN human rights official withdrew his promise to circulate as an official UN Cummission document bis letter condemning Palestinian representative Nahil Ramlawi's accusation that Israel spread AIDS among Palestinian

In a letter to Ramlawi, Chairman of the UN Commission on Human Rights Miroslav Somul expressed his regret at having caused "any harm" hy his sympathetic letter to Israeli representative Ynsef Lamdan in the wake of Ramlawi's accusations.

The Palestinian representative accused Israeli authorities of "infected by injection 300 Palestinian children with the HIV virus during the years of the intifada."

Chrisnan Solidarity representa-tive David Litman, who has been urging Somol to take actinn against the "mendacious and racist allegations" of the Palestinian representative, reiterated bis request

Ramlawi, who has not retracted

Turkish mayor on trial for anti-Israel rally

ANKARA (Reuter) - A Turkish state security court yesterday began the trial of a former mayor from the ruling Welfare Party on charges of serious public order offenses for organizing an anti-Israeli protest, a defense lawyer said.

"The trial began today. Our request for the release of defendant Bekir Yildiz was rejected," lawyer Mehmet Ali Bulut said. Yildiz enraged secularists by hosting a night of anti-Israel protests

in Ankara's Sincan district in January. Yildiz and Iranian Ambassador Ali Reza Bagheri spoke on a stage draped with a banner of the late Islamic Jihad leader Fathi Shkaki. The lawyer said Yildiz was accused of "providing aid to an armed

gang and making its propaganda" and faced three to five years in jail Ten others whn took part in the protest were charged with similar offenses, hut four of them were allowed to leave the jail at Tuesday's hearing, the lawyer said.

Israel, China launch joint research fund

By JUDY SIEGEL

The science ministries of Israel and China will this month launch a joint \$5 million research fund. Each will deposit half the amount in a joint account, and the proceeds will finance the work of Chinese and Israeli researchers in the fields nf natural resources, health, and agriculture.

The decision was taken during the visit of China's deputy science minister, Prof. Zhu Lilan, who arrived here this week at the head of a senior delegation.

Zhu praised the high level of sci-

ence in Israel and the way in which advanced technologies have been integrated in local industry.

She expressed the hope that the existing warm scientific ties between the twn countries will be deepened and expanded, beyond the cooperation agreement signed

Israel's participatinn in the European Union's research and development programs will help advance joint Chinese-Israeli research proposals, she said, as it encourages cooperation with "emerging economies."

Doctors continue sanctions

at capital's Hadassah hospitals



Striking Bar-Ilan University students burn tires at a demonstration at the campus's main gate yesterday.

Yair Netanyahu has problems

By JUDY SIEGEL

Hadassah Medical Organization management and hospital physicians yesterday failed to reach an understanding that chuld have led in three weeks of negotiations over the institution's recovery

program. Management would agree only tn suspend unilateral changes in the doctors' collective agreement, while the physicians demanded their cancellation. After vesterday's fruitless meeting with the Lahor and Social Affairs Ministry's labor relations chief, HMO directur Shmuel Penchas is due to return for annther session . Sunday.

In the meantime, members of the doctors' committee said there was "full nbservance" nf yesterday's sanctions, which shut outpatient clinics in Jerusalem's Ein

Kerem and Mt. Scnpus Hadassah-University hospitals. In addition, all medical school classes have been cancelled until further notice.

Penchas said yesterday it is impossible for HMO's board of directors to cancel changes in the doctors' collective agreement; this, he said, "would require a two-week cooling-off period after three weeks of negotiatinns and cause a further lnss of money that would otherwise have been saved fram cuts of wages and other benefits."

Penchas dismissed annnymous demands hy some Hadassah department heads for his resignatinn. "Making such statements is a standard tactic in a labor struggle - an attempt to undermine my confidence," he declared. "But it won't work."

Penchas urged the doctors to

He may be alinwed to throw pillows around the Oval Office, but five-year-old Yair Netanyahu is reportedly having trouble getting into a prestigious Jerusalem elementary school.

According to press reports, Sara Netanyahu has been trying to enroll her son, who starts first grade this fall, in the Keshet School, regarded as the "in" place to send your children among the capital's yuppie set.

However, school principal Ruth Lahavi was accused by Sara Netanyahu of giving her and Yair

in the class because of the security problems and media circus it would

ter reportedly said they had heard Lahavi comment that the prime minister's son would not study in her school.

asked the Education Ministry for help. She was referred to the Jerusalem Education Authority.

The group then hid Edri's body

in the car and drove hack to Kafr

Tzurif, where they picked up

another member of the cell and

a wadi south of the village. They

told their interrogators that they drew a map of the grave's loca-

non and passed it on to their

understanding between the school principal and the prime minister's wife about the registration proce-

Authority director Meir Krues "looked into the matter and the misunderstanding was straightened out," the spokeswoman said.

Netanyahu and Lahavi are reportedly now scheduled to have a meeting to discuss the matter, which is the regular initial procedure for school registration, according to parents whn have children there.

Dudi Yifrah, whose son would be one of Yair Netanyahu's classmates if the prime minister's son is accepted into Keshet, said that while he and his wife had "no objection at all" to the boy attending the school, it was important the Netanyahus "be treated like any other family and are not given any preferential treatment."

His wife, Yoni, said the younger Netanyahu "has to go to school somewhere, after all." But she noted that over 100 applicants had been turned down for the school, with limited space first assigned to siblings of those already attending

the school. "I don't know if he's even appropriate for the school," Dudi Yifrah said, noting that it stresses tolerance and pluralism. However, he said he was sure Lahavi would meet with Sara Netanyahu, since "she is willing to meet with anyone."

Another parent from the school had more misgivings. "Assuming they're found appropriate, I'm not particularly happy about having my child gn to a school that will require such stringent security.

Imagine the type of security that will be needed every time they go out on a trip. On the other hand, the 'kid has the right to go to a public school."

"But the school doesn't need the media spotlight" the parent said, adding Yair's attendance would be "an impediment to its functioning."
He added that he doubted Yair Netanyahu would be accepted, if his family is judged by the school's credo.

The lack of any recent "public gestures towards non-Orthodox movements makes me wonder how ingrained respect for religious pluralism is" in the prime minister, raising questions about whether the Netanyahus are appropriate for the school, he said.

Ruth Lahavi declined comment on the report, and Sara Netanyahu's personal secretary was unavailable for comment.

wbo had fled to Hebron. An unnamed CIA official present at the meeting urged both sides to. resume security cooperation.

MORDECHAI

Continued from Page 1

peace process between us and the Palestinians to achieve real peace."

Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat's adviser Nabil Abu Rudeineh dennunced Mordechai's remark. This statement does nothing to help the peace process. This is not the soul of partnership. In Oslo we decided to stop talking about occupa-

He said the remarks were tantamount in "declaring war," considering that Palestinians know that such an invasion is possible. "You know the Palestinian cities are surrounded by tanks and the situation is very tense. In this kind of situation, we need to ease tensions not raise them."

tion, about the past."

in an April 8 letter to the chairman in which Littman stressed that "the conscience of the world cannot gloss over [this] grave matter of

his accusation, asked Sumol Wednesday to circulate a letter in wednesday to circulate a letter in which Ramlawi accuses IDF soldiers of "npening fire on a Palestinian mass" and settlers of "deliberately killing and wounding [Palestinians]" as an official UN Commission document.

TA burial society officials suspected of tax fraud

Four senior officials of the Tel Aviv Hevra Kadisha, suspected nf defrauding the tax authorities of millions of shekels between 1990 and 1996, were released on bail yesterday hy Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court.

The four are former chairman Yisrael Ehrlich, 74, of Tel Aviv; deputy chairman Shmuel Gefen. 60, nf Tel Aviv; comptroller and accountant Asher Deskel, 40, of Ramat Gan; and treasurer Rabbi Binyamin Shcharansky, 65, nf Tel Aviv. All four maintained their innocence.

Ehrlich is suspected of receiving NIS 600,000 from the burial society, which was listed in the books as a "loan" and a husiness expense.

He was not required to pay either the interest or linkage and has yet to repay any of the

In addition to a variety of simtlar offenses, he is suspected of purchasing such things as gasoline and books for his personal use with checks drawn on the Hevra Kadisha's account and listed on its books as business

Some two kilometers of irrigation pipe and other items the society purchased were discovered on his children's moshav. Ehrlich was freed on NIS 250,000 bail.

Gefeu, who was authorized to sign checks, approved as business expenses all sorts of payments to workers, such as for gasoline and repairs for their dreds of thnusands of shekels without interest or linkage. These were given without the taxes required by law being deducted.

He was freed on NIS 525,000

bail. Deskel and Shcharansky are snspected of similar offenses. They were freed nn NIS 525,000 and NIS 650,000 bail respec-

10 million expected to use Ben-Gurion in 2000

By HAIM SHAPIRO

Ben-Gurinn Airpurt was planned to accummodate at the most four million passengers a

It is now used by some seven millinn passengers a year, and the predictions are that during 2000, 10 million or more will pass through its gates.

The much touted new terminal, Ben-Gurion 2000, has been held up by numerous objections and court cases.

According to the Airports Anthority spokeswnman, Sara Erez, the earliest it will upen, if there are no further delays, is

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2001. This week, Tourism Minister Mosbe Katsav and Transport Minister Yitzhak Levy decided in set up joint teams to discuss their ministries' preparedness

2000, when millions of Christian pilgrims are expected. The teams are to study air passenger traffic, and the effect the mass of visitors will have on public transportation and traffic

and parking in cities. One suggestion to reduce congestion at the airport is to conduct the entry formalities in the

Organized groups would go through the departure formali-ties at their hutels or in city cen-

Other suggestions are an easing of entry and departure procedures for Israelis and an increase in the number of airline positions at the airport.

CAMP DAVID Continued from Page 7

tinns," Ouandt says. . "And at a time when the Arab world doesn't seem in be very nrganized or able to speak with a single voice, maybe this would be an ideal bargaining situation, with a strong Israel backed by the US putting pressure on Arafat in settle fnr half a loaf or less." Quandt predicts Israel and the Palestinian Authority will be able to work out security arrangements.

But the "testy agenda" for the final-status talks - refugees, burders, settlements, Jerusalem, statehood - has to hurdle dramatically cunflicting positions that chuld doom a summit, he states..

"THE MOST obvious thing that would happen is the negotiations would probably fail, the gap is so enormnus. I don't see any easy way of patching over the differences on [final-status issues]...

"If Rahin and Peres were there with reasonably strong public support, I would be a little bit more inclined to say it could be done. You [would be] within 10 nr 15 percent on most of the issues, and an American bridging proposal just might be what's needed, [as well as creating trade-offs here

and there, and so forth. "But gning into final status when the gap isn't 10 nr 15 percent but is more like 50 or 60 percent - that's a hell of a bridge.

And [Clinum] is nut a great hridge-huilder, frankly." Quandt says he is not disturbed by the use nf the term and concept nf Camp David at this relatively early stage in the peace talks. Instead, "I think : what would be disappointing is if there were an attempt to kind of replicate Camp David-style and it just turned nut in be a cropper nothing happened, it failed - then you've used the model and pro-

duced nothing." He barks back in the less wellremembered "Camp David II" when lower-level Israeli-Egyptian nfficials came bere but were not authorized to negotiate and "Carter wasn't prepared to take

the time. "It was a total bust, it didn't work at all," says Quandt

There is some risk in just routinizing these things and saying whenever there's a problem we ought to have a summit. Dayton [the 1995 Bosnia peace negotiations in Obio] is the 1ther model not quite a summit, not quite Camp David, not quite presidennal, but a fairly serious commitment with leaders who can make decisions.

But you had somebody other than the president harassing them and haranguing them. We don't have a Dick Holbrooke [the US negoriator on Bosnia] on the Middle East." Now, "the gap is so awesome that it would take either a major change in known positions to make negntiations productive, or a change of leader-

tural changes and lower standards nf medicine forced upon it," he The doctors have declared that they are nnt to blame for HMO's NIS 187 million deficit, and that they cannot make any cancessions until the unilateral cancellation of the collective agreement is ahrogated. Meanwhile, Kupat

Hnlim Clalit administrative and maintenance personnel went back tn work vesterday morning after three days of sanctinns, obeying a restraining order issued by the Tel Aviv District Labor Cnurt.

The two sides were asked to negntiate and report back on

"come to their senses" and realize

the danger posed by their refusal

to accept the recovery plan. "If

sanctions persist and deficits con-

tinue to grow, there is a risk that

Hadassah will have serious struc-



EDRI

Continued from Page 1

Among those arrested was Dr. Samir Khadi, head of Alia Hospital in Hehron and a former Hamas deportee, Kafr Tzurif residents said.

Troops converged on the village early Wednesday and harred journalists from entering. An IDF video released afterward, however, showed a handcuffed Palestinian prisoner leading soldiers to an olive tree and pointing downward to Edri's grave. Soldiers soon dug up the body and Edri's personal effects.

From the interrogation, it was learned that some members of the cell set out last September in a vehicle with Israeli license plates toward the Tzrifin army base with the express purpose of kidnapping soldier. They said Edri was picked up near the base. One of them drew a pissol and shot Edri dead shortly afterward, when he suspected Edri knew he had been kidnapped by Arabs.

getting into exclusive school

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

the runaround. Seninr Jerusalem Municipality nfficials reportedly said Lahavi was not interested in having Netanyahu

Sources close to the prime minis-

A frustrated Sara Netanyahu then According to a municipality spokeswoman, There was a mis-

buried Edri under an nlive tree in

Hamas operator. They also said they tried to repeat the kidnapping and had actually picked up a soldier, but he managed to get out of the car before they could harm him.

Edri, 20, who was promoted posthumously, is to be buried on Sunday, at 1 p.m., in the military section of the Beit Shemesh Cemetery,

The demise of the cell followed the Tel Aviv bombing. The cell had planned to plant the bomh, then escape, and two members of the cell drove to Tel Aviv. While one of them went to the cafe, the nther waited in the getaway car, but for some reason the bomb went off. The driver then returned to Kafr Tzurif and fled to Hehron the next day, when the identity of the bomber became known.

"Uncovering this cell proves that the various security arms are continuing to fight terror in every corner and in every place, even when it doesn't appear in the beadlines and when it looks as if nnthing has been done," said Deputy Chief of General Staff Maj.-Gen. Matan Vilna'i. "It also proves in anymne whn attacks us that we will reach them."

After Edri went missing an September 9, his family launched a massive to locate him, conducting searches in the hills around Zanoah, bis Beil Shemesh-area moshav, meeting with Israeli and Palestinian leaders, and soliciting the help of American congressmen. His family had consistently insisted that Edri had been

abducted and was being held against his will. Police had initially suspected Edri might have disappeared on his own accurd, and suicide was suggested.

At the Tuesday night meeting between PA Chairman Yasser Arafai and General Security Service chief Ami Ayalon in Gaza City, Israel asked for help in detaining the two cell members

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3 letter to the chainsa
tman suressed that the
of the world cause
[this] grave matter of who has not retacted attion, asked Some to circulate a length in days accuses IDF to the common fire on the common fire co "opening fire on a mass" and senior of y killing and wond-inians)" as an official ission document

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nior officials of the la ra Kadisha, suspected ding the tax authorities as of shekels benefits 1996, were released to sterday by Tel Aviv e s Court

are former chains hrlich, 74. of Tel Am. hairman Shmuel Gele. 1 Aviv comptroller nt Asher Deskel, 40 d \$ and treasurer Ratio n Sheharansky, 65, d .. All four maintained ocence.

1 is suspected of receive 600,000 from the barial which was listed in the " loan" and a business

as not required to pay e interest or linkage and to repay any of the

ittion to a variety of sininsure, he is suspected of ing such things as gambooks for his person in checks drawn on the Kadisha's account ad on its books as business

at two kilometers of inpipe and other items for purchased were disona his children's mosket : was freed on XX

31 -21

n, who was authorized a nucles, approved as hos openses all sens of preto workers, such as h ie und ICD : .ars and loans of 📾 e: thousands of shelds .. .nierest or limber ware given without 🗷 🛰 required by law beit A. mas freed on NIS 325,00

kel and Sheharansky similar offenses were freed on NIS 52500 \$15 050,000 bail respo

10 million expected to use 3en-Gurion in 2000

By HAIM SHAPIRO The state of the s THE PASSED OF ... ou used by some set

or more at moved as cass. Carried new kinds objective to the strongs. St The state of the s And the least of the least

Tourism Transe and Transe and to the preparate military milit tied with Chicago for seventh place in the Western Conference, can still finish as high as fourth.

Commence of the second second

Attentic Division

W L T Pts GF GA

x-New Jersey 44 22 14 102 225 177

x-Philadelphia 44 23 12 100 263 204

x-Florida 34 28 19 87 217 199

x-NY Rangers 37 33 10 84 250 224

Tampa Bay 30 39 10 70 208 240

Washington 30 40 9 69 197 224

NY Islanders 28 40 12 68 232 240

Northeast Division

W L T Pts GF GA rs 28- 40 12 55 252 240
Division:

W L T Pts GF GA
39 28 12 90 229 198
1 38 33 8 34 277 265
31 35 14 76 244 270
81 38 11 73 220 249
29 36 15 73 222 232
25 45 9 59 226 290 x-Pittsburgh Montreal

an empty net goal with 59.6 seconds left as the Islanders failed to make the postseason for the third straight

The Blackhawks need one more win or tie - or one more loss or tie EASTERN CONFERENCE

Wednesday night behind Grant Fuhr,

Brett Hull, back after missing

times games with a groin injury,

scored midway through the first period as St. Louis reached the post-

season for the 18th consecutive year.

The Blues, who emered the game

career shutout.

WESTERN CONFERENCE Calgary 32 Los Angeles 26 San Jose 27 2 clinched division title

Wednesday's results: Ottawa 5, Hartford 4; Montreal 3, N Y Islanders 1; Florida 4, New Jersey 2; St Louis 1, Chicago 0; Dallas 3, Toronto 2; San Jose 4, Colorado 1; Detroit 3, Edmonton 3; Vancouver 6, Phoenix 4; Annheim 4, Los Angeles 1.

Hap Jerusalem stuns Mac. TA to take basketball's State Cup

By ARYEN DEAN COHEN

Maccabi Tel Avív coach Zvi Scherf might as well give Jerusalem's Adi Gordon the keys to Yad Eliahu. Gordon owns the place. After tossing in the winning bas-ket at the buzzer to beat Scherf's

clab in last year's State Cup final, Gordon burned Maccabi Tel Aviv again last night, bitting for 32 points to give Hapoel Jerusalem its second straight State Cup victory over Maccabi, 89-82.

Whether it was hitting four of Jerusalem's incredible nine first half three-pointers to huild his team's early advantage or helping it overcome Maccabi's valiant secand half comeback, Gordon was unstoppable. But give equal credit to Jerusalem coach Gadi Kedar, who managed to rebuild a club flattened by its loss last week to Maccabi Ra anana, and restore it to peak form just at the right time.

Threes were certainly wild at Yad Eliahu last night. The first half not only began with two, one from

it 2-0 just before the break.

PSG crush Liverpool 3-0

PARIS (Reuter) - Paris St Germain took a glant step towards their

The Parisians, hidding to become the first team to retain the trophy,

took an early lead thanks to Brazilian Leonardo, who took advantage of

a blunder by Liverpool goalkeeper David James io the 10th minute to

James was again to hlame for PSG's second goal as he dropped the

ball on a cross from the right to allow midfielder Benoit Cauet to make

But there was nothing James could do to stop PSG's third goal, scored

from close range by Jerome Leroy in the 83rd minute from a pass hy

Hornets notch up

50th win of season

CHARLOTTE, NC (AP) - Atlanta Hawks set a season record

night, a 136-111 triumph over Hawks' 13 blocks, which tied the

Ricky Pierce added 24 points and of eight free throws in the fourth

in Philadelphia, Dikembe and Jason Caffey had 14 points and

Wednesday's results: Atlanta 116, Philadelphia 101; Charlotte 136, Boston 111; Utah 101, L A Lakers 89; Chicago 36, Indiana 80.

Blues beat Blackhawks,

clinch playoff spot

CHICAGO (AP) - The St. Louis each by Calgary and Vancouver - to

who made 23 saves for his 20th at Central Division-leading Dallas.

Bines: clinched a playoff spot by gain a playoff spot. Chicago Blackhawks 1-0

Chicago plays host

quarter.

fourth quarter.

team season high.

Eastern Conference.

Charlotte tied a franchise record with 23 steals.

with its 50th victory Wednesday

Boston's depleted Celtics in which

the Hornets scored the most points in

the National Basketball Association

Glen Rice had 29 points for the Homets, who built is 25 point edge

after three quarters and went on to

their highest point total and widest

margin of victory this season. They

also attempted 21 3-pointers and

Rookie Tony Delk had 18 of his season-high 25 points in the fourth

quarter as the Horiets improved to

Muggsy Bogues had 13 points and

10 assists for the Hornets, who

improved to 24 games over .500 for

The Celtics lost their 10th consec-

Hawks 116, 76ers 101

Mutombo blocked three straight

shots in a nine-second span and the

Atlantic Division

x-Miami 58 18 .763 x-New York 53 23 .697 5
Orlando 42 34 .553 16
Washington 39 37 .513 19
New Jersey 23 52 .307 .34%
Philadelphia 21 55 .276 37
Boston 13 64 .169 45%

· EASTERN CONFERENCE

made a franchise-record 15.

this season.

the first time.

utive game.

each team, but ended with an off-balance almost half-court trey by Brad Leaf. In between, however, Jerusalem put on a shooting display the likes of which have never been seen in State Cup action. Kedar's eluh was an amazing nine of ten from downtown, with Dan Bingenheimer hitting two and Moni Daniel a pair as well.

It was that three-point shooting, great defense and some fine coaching by Kedar that helped Jerusalem to its first-half advantage. Kedar, a big believer in psychology, worked wonders with his team's head last night. First, he started Doron Shefa over Papi Turgeman, and Shefa repaid him with six early points. Jerusalem's inside-outside offense elickett to perfection, and when Motti Daniel hit a three-pointer from practically inside the Yad Eliahu dressing room, Hapoel had grabbed a 27-16 lead with 11:20 left in the first half.

Meanwhile, Scherf erred badly by replacing Oded Katash early in the half. Katash had early success

Mutombo finished with six of the

Mookie Blaylock's 19 points led

six Hawks in double figures as

Atlanta moved a half-game ahead of

Detroit for fourth place in the

Allen Iverson, who scored 44-

points and played all 48 minutes in

the 76ers' last game Monday against

Chicago, once again played the whole game, leading the 76ers with

Bulls 86, Pacers 80

struggling from the field, hit seven

In Indianapolis, Michael Jordan,

Jordan was only 8-for-19 from the

field and had six turnovers with his

23 points, but his timely free throws

turned the game around early in the

Scottie Pippen added 17 points

a career-high 16 rebounds for the

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Pacific Division

x-Seattle 52 24 .684

x-LA Lakers 52 25 .675

x-Portland 45 33 .577

x-Phoenix 37 39 487

LA Clippers 34 42 .447

Sacramento 31 45 .408

Golden State 28 48 .368

y-clinched division file x-clinched playof

Chicago plays host to Calgary toay before finishing the season Sunday

Canadiens 3, Islanders 1 In Uniondale, New York, Shayne

Corson's power play goal with 4:27 left broke a tie and lifted Montreal

and ended the Islanders' playoff

Recchi and Martin Rucinsky added

Corson tipped in a pass by Mark

preferring Brad Leaf's defense. The resulting dropoff in overall offensive flow hurt Maccabi. though Leaf tossed in 10 first-half points. The most incredible of all was his fling after Jerusalem's H. Waldman got stuffed just before halftime, which allowed Maccabi to breathe a little easier, 52-41.

Soon they were breathing right down Jerusalem's necks. Led by Doron Sheffer, Maccahi went on a 10-1 spurt to open the second half. and Hapoel fans' faces were suddenly red, but with embarrassment. Borko Radovie also had a major role in the Maccabi eomeback, and his basket with 12:20 left gave Maccabi the lead, 60-59.

Jerusalem, meanwhile, appeared rattled. While Maccabi played much better defense, Hapoel's ball movement disappeared, but then suddenly, there was that man again. Gordon scored twice after a basket by Bingenheimer, and suddenly Jerusalem was back in the cat hird's seat, leading 65-60.

Papi Turgeman joined the three-point parade, hitting one just seconds after being inserted into the line-up as Kedar's uncanny ability to make the right moves at the right time continued. But Naday Henefeld managed to keep Tel Aviv close, and his foul shot with five

minutes left out the lead to 70-68.

Daniel, who was a tiger on defense as he was throughout his career with Maccabi Tel Aviv before joining Jerusalem this year, fouled Buck Johnson on a threepoint attempt. Johnson hit all three foul shots, and the lead was down to a single point, 72-71.
That's when Bingenheimer,

much maligned all season, hit a huge three for Jerusalem, seemingly opening up some breathing room. But in this replay of last year's tense final, Sheffer came right back with a trey of his own. and it was 75-74. Gordon, however, was the King

of Threes last night, and fired up another, then hit a drive, agaio putting the nails in Maccabi's eof-

fin. Jerusalem survived some shaky foul shooting down the stretch by Billy Thompson, but also benefited from his incredible stuffing of Constantin Popa late in the game.

Maccabi tried to get some cise for Maccabi fans 10 do but take their yellow scarves off to Gordon, who'd done their team in again.

also a major boost as it prepares for this Monday's opening of its semi-

Elitzur Holon edged Elitzur Ramle, 84-83, in overtime to win the "double," after winning the league

offense going, but with Sheffer fouling out, White also on the sidelines with five fouls, and Katash missing a lay-up, there was nothing

For Jerusalem, the victory was

final playoff series vs. Maccahi For Maccabi it remains to be seen just how the State Cup defeat will

affect its opener Sunday vs. Hapoel Eilat Sheffer and Henefeld had 16 apiece for Maccahi, while Bingenheimer added 17 for Hapoel. In the women's State Cup.

championship earlier this week.

second consecutive European Cup Winners' Cup final when they crushed Liverpool 3-0 in their semifinal first leg at the Parc des Princes

CAST A GIANT SHADOW - Phillies center fielder Wendell Magee hangs onto the outfield fence while trying to reach a home run hit by San Francisco Giants' Barry Bonds during first inning action in San francisco on Wednesday. (Reuser)

Blue Jays stifle White Sox 5-0 in solitude

innings before leaving with a muscle cramp in his groin, and the Toronto Blue Jays beat the Chicago White Sox 5-0 Wednesday before a paid anendance of just 746.

It was Chicago's lowest home paid attendance since Sept. 21, 1970, when 672 attended a doubleheader against Kansas City at the old Comiskey Park. Including free tickets and those who used tickets from Tuesday night, total atten-dance in the 44,321-seat ballpark was 1.677.

The game was moved from night to day because of the cold. Temperatures were just above freezing on Wednesday.

Clemens, beating the White Sox for the second time this season, struck out seven and walked two. He gave up singles to Dave Martinez in the first and Ray Durham in the second.

Joe Carter had three hits and drove in two runs for Toronto. The Blue Jays scored a run in the league-leading fifth save.

CHICAGO (AP) - Roger first and then added four in the Clemens allowed two hits in 5 2-3 third off Wilson Alvarez (0-2), who matched a career high with 12 strikeouts in seven innings.

Tigers 10, Twins 5 In Detroit, Bobby Higginson hit his first career grand slam as Detroit rallied to beat the Minnesota Twins before 6,477, the smallest crowd at Tiger Stadium in eight years.

Detroit evened its record at 4-4. the first time the Tigers have been at 500 since they were 8-8 last April 17. NATIONAL LEAGUE

Giants 3, Phillies 0 Barry Bonds hit his first homer of the season; and Kirk Rueter (1-0) allowed four hits in seven innings as the San Francisco Giants beat the

Philadelphia Phillies 3-0. Bonds, moved up to third in the batting order from the cleanup spot, connected off Bobby Munoz (0-2) for a two-run homer in the

Rod Beck got three outs, finishing the five-hitter for his major

Rockies 13, Reds 4 In Denver, Ellis Burks homered

twice for the 13th multihomer game of his career, and Andres Galarraga had four hits as Colorado won it sixth straight.

On an afternoon, with snow flurries and a wind-chill near 6, Dante Bichette added two hits and three RBIs for the Rockies, who built an 8-0 lead after five innings.

Mark Thompson (2-0), who pitched seven scoreless innings in Cincinnati six days ago, was dominant through five innings before Barry Larkin, Willie Greene, and Reggie Sanders hit eonsecutive homers in the sixth.

Ricky Bones (0-1) was pounded for seven runs and 10 hits in four

Wednesday's NL results: San Francisco 3, Philadelphia 0; Colorado 13, Cincinnati 4; Atlanta 4, Houston 3 (12); Los Angeles 3, NY 2 (14); Pittsburgh 4, San Diego 2.

Wednesday's AL results: Texas at Milwaukee, ppd; Detroit 10, Minnesota 5; Toronto 5, Chicago 9; Oskiand 4, Bostoa 3 (10); Seattle 11, Cleveland 1; Baltimore 4,

Sarazen, Snead, Nelson launch Masters

AUGUSTA, Ga. (Reuler) - Honorary starters Gene Sarazen, Sam Snead and Byron Nelson conquered the early morning chill at Augusta National Golf Club yesterday to successfully launch the 61st edition of the Masters.

The elder champions all placed their ceremonial tee shots onto the fairway to mark the opening of this season's first major championship before retiring to the warmth of the clubbouse.

Sarazen, 95, helped establish the Masters as a memorable event with his famed albatross - a double-eagle two at the par-5 15th hole - that lifted him to the 1935 Masters title in the second playing of the invitational tournament.

Snead, 84, was a three-time Masters winner (1949, 1952, 1954), and the 85-year-old Nelson won in 1937 and 1942.

None of the early starters in the field of 86 was doing much damage on the Augusta National course, which is playing hard and fast. Temperatures were expected to settle in the middle 60s (18 C) accompanied by spirited breezes in the

Later in the day, defending champion Nick Faldo was to tee off in one of the glamor pairings with 21-year-old sensation Tiger Woods.

Australian Greg Norman, a heartbreaking loser last year after carrying a six-stroke lead into the final round, is paired with Phil Mickelson.

Other star power pairings include Briton Colin Montgomerie playing alongside Davis Love, each in search of his first major title, and PGA Tour money leader Steve Elkington of Australia, who was to play with Tom Watson.

Disabled riders to compete at Gamla

The first national riding competition for disabled riders will be held on Sunday at the Gamla Therapeutic Riding Center, located at Moshav Ma'ale Gamla on the Golan Heights.

Some 100 riders, children and adults, from five riding centers throughout the country, will compete in beginners and advanced

Among the young riders will be children with Down's Syndrome, cerebral palsy and autism while the adults are mainly mentally disabled.

The event will begin at 9.30 a.m. Call 06-6914564 or 06-6938987 for more information.

Basketball playoffs start Sunday

The National Basketball League semifinals get under way on Sunday here are the dates of the upcoming semi-final games: Maccabi Tel Aviv vs. Hapoel Eilat - Sunday (Tel Aviv). Wednesday (Eilat), Sunday (April 20th, Tel Aviv), *Wednesday (23, Eilat), *Monday (28th, Tel Aviv).

Maccabi Ra'anana vs. Hapoel Jerusalem - Monday (Ra'anana), Thursday (Jerusalem), Sunday (20th, Ra'anana), Thursday (24, Jerusalem), *Monday (28th, Ra'anana).

Bourges win women's EuroLeague trophy

LARISSA, Greece (Reuter) - France's Bourges scored a surprise 71-52 win over favorites Wuppertal of Germany in the women's Euroleague final four tournament decider yesterday. Bourges took a 12-point lead early in the first half, capitalising

on their height advantage.

Italian side Como, twice European ebampions, were beaten 74-58 hy Slovakia's Ruzomberok in the third place playoff.

Graf delays comeback, to miss Hamburg Open

BONN (Reuter) - Steffi Graf yesterday postponed her comeback after a knee injury, pulling out of this month's Hamburg Open where she could have clashed with new world No. 1 Martina Hingis.

"My long break from the game means I have to be careful about my preparations which will take a bit longer," Graf said. "I don't want to put my good recovery in any danger hy coming back too soon." Graf lost the No. 1 spot to Hingis at the end of last month. The Hamburg tournament starts on April 29.

Referee has appeal against life ban rejected

GENEVA (Reuter) - Swiss referee Kurt Roethlisberger had his appeal against a life ban for attempted bribery rejected by UEFA

Roethlisberger, once recognised as one of soccer's top officials, was suspended two weeks ago after a UEFA investigation found be had solicited a bribe to fix a European Champions' league match between Grasshopper Zurich and Auxerre on October 30

Since the decision Roethlisberger, who officiated at the 1990 and 1994 World Cup finals and the 1988 Socul Olympics, had steadfastly maintained his innocence.

But the five-member UEFA board of appeals rejected the 48year-old schoolteacher's explanation of the events and stood by their original ruling.

Man. Utd. consider appeal after FA snub

LONDON (Reuter) - Manchester United may consider legal action to force an extension of the premier league season after officials rejected their plea yesterday for help in easing a fixture backlog.

least one European Cup match to squeeze in before the May 11

But their request fell on deaf ears as the premier league's twoman board saw no reason to lengthen the season. United chairman Martin Edwards was furious at the decision, branded the officials "amateurs" and vowed that United would appeal and consider legal action.

Taiba return to scene of tragedy

National League soccer will try to recover from the trauma of last weekend's tragic happenings at Umm el-Fahm where Wahih Ibara died during a match between Hapoel Taiba and Bnei Yehuda.

Taiba return to the scene of their trauma tomorrow for a crucial match with fellow-strugglers Zafririm Holon. The home side look almost certain to be relegated but if there is still any hope for them, then it will only come through a victory over Holon.

Leaders Betar Jerusalem will no doobt continue their advance towards the title and a second win this season over Maccabi Haifa this time at Teddy Stadium - will be further proof of their overwhelming dominance of the league. The Betaris lost last weekend to Hapoel Petah Tikva, but that appears to be only a mild hiccup on the way to the championship.

Elsewhere, second-placed Hapoel Beersheba host Hapoel Jerusalem and a win will be vital as they aim to hold on to second place, with Hapoel Petah Tikva hreathing down their necks. Hapoel Tel Aviv are looking to

ride the crest of their victory wave from last week when they finally notched a win under coach Dror Kashtan. They visit Maccabi Herzliva and three points would do wonders for their confidence as they hope to break away from the relegation zone. This veckend's National League fixtures (all matches kick off tomorrow at 16:30

Hapoel Taiba v. Zafirtrim Holon, Umsa el-Fahm; Baei Yebuda v. Hapoel Petah Tikva, Hatikva Quarter; Betar Jerusalem v. Maccabi Haifa, Teddy Stadium 17:00; Maccabi Tel Aviv v. Hapoel Kfar Sava, National Stadium, Ramat Gan 17:45; Maccabi Herzilya v. Hapoel Tel Aviv, Herzilya today 16:00; Hapoel Beerzheba v, Hapoel Jerunalem, Beerzheba; Hapoel Haifa v. Ironi Rishon Lezion, Kiryat Ellener 15:30; Maccabi Petah Tikva v. Hapoel Beit

Coventry escape relegation zone

LONDON (AP) - Coventry followed up Sunday's stunning 2-1 win at title-chasing Liverpool with a come-from-behind 3-1 victory over Chelsea on Wednesday night to improve their chances of survival in the Premiership.

After Paul Hughes had given Chelsea the lead two minutes before half time, the Sky Blues hit back with three goals in nine minutes after the break through Dion Dublin, Paul Williams and Noel Whelan as Gordon Strechan's team moved up to 15th in the 20-club standings, three above the relegation zone.

A last minute own goal by Derby's Darryl Powell lifted Southampton away from last place in a 1-1 draw. Powell watched in disbelief as the ball struck his legs in a goalmouth scramble and rolled over the line after Ashley Ward had given Derby a

1-0 lead in the 66th minute. Nottingham Forest, who did not

play on Wednesday, drop to last

Forest have 31 points from 34 games, Southampton 31 from 33 with a better goal difference and Middlesbrough, who ended their match at West Ham goalless 33

Coventry have jumped above Sunderland and West Ham and now has 36 from 34.

At the other end, Aston Villa immped above Newcastle into fourth place with a 2-0 victory at Wimbledon.

Bolton came from behind to beat Manchester City 2-1 and clinch the Division One title.

Wednesday's results: Premier League: Coventry 3, Chelsen 1; Derby 1, Southampton 1; Everton 1, Leicester 1; Sheffield Wednesday 2, Tottenham 1; West Ham 2, Middlesbrough 8; Wimbledon 8, Actor Villo 2 Division One: Chariton 2, Huddersfield

1; Manchester City 1, Bolton 2; Bromwich Albion 1; Crystal Palace 0.

Sports Editors: Joseph Hofman and On Levels

Romania to return Jewish assets By DAVID HAFRIS The Romanian cabinet is today expected to proclaim a government decree returning a government decree retur

Jewish communal property seized during World War II and the Communist era, World Jewish Restitution Organization (WJRO) vicechairman Naphtali Lavie told the Jerusalem Post yesterday.

Unlike the Poles, who introduced a parliamentary bill to discuss the issue, the Romanian government's decree will be implemented without the need for legislation.

The declaration was concluded after two days of talks this week between senior Romanian politicians and a team from the

The property will be handed over to a foundation to be established by the WJRO and the Federation of Romanian Jewish Communities.

The value of the communal property has not yet been ascertained. However, lost Jewish assets are thought to include 295 demolished synagogues and hundreds of expropriated properties - 165 schools and 31 hospitals, as Jews," said Lavie. "This offer has come, despite the severely depressed economic situa-

Among those iovolved in the talks on Tuesday and Wednesday were Romanian President Emil Constantinescu, Prime Minister Victor Ciorbea, the foreign and defense ministers, and senior senators, together with Jewish community head Professor Nikolai Cajal.

The politicians agreed it is high time to meet the demands of the Jewish community, but in turn expressed the hope that Israel and the Jewish people at large will push for Romania's acceptance into NATO and the European

While the decree will only apply to communal property, Ciorbea said he will examine any claims from private citizens concerning their family property. There are thought to be

400,000 Israelis of Romanian stock today. The Jewish community today numbers

ies in Romania, according to the Federation. More than 500 communities were destroyed during the war, reducing the Jewish popula-tion by half to 400,000. Of the survivors, 320,000 left the country with the start of the Communist era.

A decree issued in December 1944, after Romania switched to the Allied side in the war, repealed the previous anti-Jewish laws and ordered the return of confiscated Jewish properties. But four years later, the communists took them back again through full-scale nationalization.

In February, Poland's parliament approved the bill on state relations with Jewish communities allowing its oine surviving communities to recover some property lost during and after the Holocaust.

The attitude of the Romanian and Hungarian governments has been far more positive than that of the Poles," said a source close to the agreement.

By URSEL HEILMAN

The alleged murderer of Georgette Sitbon, her husband Yosef, tried to hang himself in his Haifa jail cell, police reported yesterday. He was taken to Rambam Hospital, according to Itim. His remand was later extended, with his attorney's consent, until Sunday hy Haifa Magistrate's Court.

Responding to the Wednesday murder, Elana Dorfman, resource coordinator for the Anti-Violence Hot Line in Haifa, said that cases of women refusing to leave abusive husbands are not uncommon.

"The problem here was one of she said, explaining that Sitbon had said she could not leave her busband because he was ill. Yosef Sitbon, 54, an unemployed electrician, was diagnosed with cancer over five years ago and is partially hlind.

Dorfman said that Georgette Sitbon never contacted the Haifa hot line, but that she had had contact with a social worker.

We see cases like this every day," said Dorfman, who works at the hot line that helps some 1,200 women in Haifa and the North

The hot line was informed two weeks ago that the Ministry of Social Welfare is reducing its annual allocation from NIS 500,000 to NIS 60,000, but according to Dorfman, the ministry promised last week to find the funds necessary to maintain the hot line's current operations. Since then, there has been no communication from the ministry.

Dorfman maintained that it is essential that the annual allocation be a permanent commitment, so that the bot line does not have to go through a struggle to obtain the necessary funds every year. In addition, if the hot line loses its annual NIS 500,000, says Dorfman, the three social workers it employs will have to be dismissed.

The hot line also receives some financial support from the United Jewish Appeal, the Jewish Agency, and several other North American

and Israeli foundations. Aside from assisting women over the telephone, the seven-year-old hot line runs one of the nation's 11 permanent battered women's shelters, maintains an emergency shelter that houses and treats women for up to a month and a half, and provides referrals and some free legal counselling to victims of domestic violence. It also runs outreach and educational programs designed to

raise awareness of domestic vio-

lence among medical professionals

and police, as well as in schools,

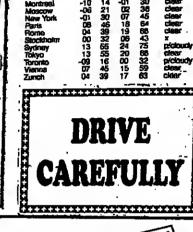
community groups, immigrant cul-tures, and the general public. Aside from the three social workers, who are at the heart of the operation, the hot line utilizes the help of approximately 45 vol-unteers, all of whom must undergo four months of training. The hot line operates 12 hours a day in

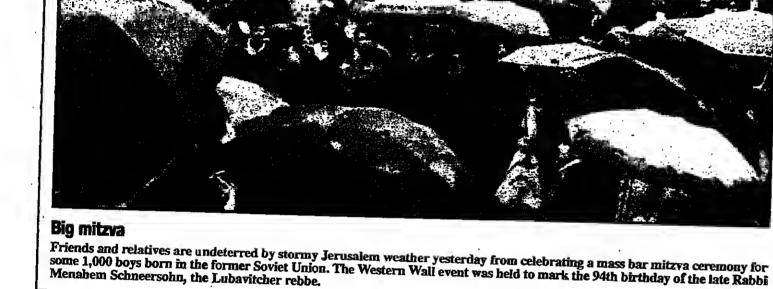
Hehrew, Arabic, Amharic, Russian, and English. It can be reached at (04) 853 0161.



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A-G: High Court should uphold No end-date petitions against Dotan's parole

vice, often under conditions of

great pressure, rather than wroog-

dologs by highly experienced

while this is not the current norm,

the parole board ought to have

Judge-Advocate General to be

heard at its hearings, since its

decisioo damaged the status of the

He also said the board failed to

consider the damage caused by

Dotan that came to light only after

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Rubinstein also argued that

senior officers.

Attorney-General Rubinstein yesterday told the High Court it should uphold the four petitions against the parole of former chief air force procurement officer Rami Dotan. Had those petitions not been filed, Rubinstein said, he would have himself asked the court not to allow Dotan's parole.

Dotan, a brigadier-geoeral, had been sentenced to 13 years in prison and demoted to private for allowed a representative of the soliciting and accepting bribes from companies doing business with the air force.

Rubinstein said there were several flaws in the military parole board's decision and the way it was made. For example, he said, it acted like it was a civilian parole board and failed to consider the difference between military and

Thus, he said, a military parole board may release a prisoner after he has served half of his sentence, while a civilian board can only act

Israeli tourist killed by alligator in Costa Rica

By Jerusalem Post Staff and agencies

An Israeli tourist in Costa Rica was killed while swimming Tuesday when he was attacked by a large alligator.

Ronen Gilad, 23, of Givatayim, had dived into the lagoon at the Mondonaguillo Nature Reserve about 50 kilometers east of the capital, San Jose, when he was attacked by a three-meter-long alligator. The giant reptile seized the swimmer in its jaws and dragged him under the surface, where he drowned.

Gilad's struggles were noticed by a park ranger, who tried with a colleague to reach him by boat; but hy the time they approached the alligator, the swimmer was already dead. The two rangers used poles to force the alligator to release his

"Gilad found himself facing a giant alligator, and despite all his efforts he could not save himself." a police statement said Wednesday. The statement added that Gilad had been warned of the presence of alligators as part of government guidelines for tourists.

Israeli Consul-General Yoad Magen, interviewed on Israel Radio from San Jose yesterday. said such attacks are "extremely

Gilad's body is to arrive from Costa Rica this afternoon. He is to be huried Sunday in Kochav Yair, where he grew up. He is survived by his parents and four sisters.

for Bar-On after two-thirds of the sentence probe have been served. He attributed this to the fact that most violations of military law are committed by young men doing compulsory ser-

State Attorney Edna Arbel is not willing to give an estimate of when the investigation into the Bar-On Affair will end, although earlier this week she joked that everybody likes to clean-up before Pessah.

In an interview with Israel Radio. Arbel rejected rumors of a dispute or differences of opinion between the Attorney's Office. Explaining why in has taken looger than originally intended, Arbel said: "As long as things have not been concluded, one can't talk about either a dispute between us or of us being in one mind. We are studying the information and forming our opinion." Liat Collins

Most domestic violence not reported

The judicial system is able to cope with cases of domestic abuse but only a minority of incidents are reported, and they are often those where the violence had reached a very advanced stage, State

Attorney Edna Arbel said yesterday.

She urged people to report cases of domestic abuse and said her office and the police take them seriously. Arbel said awareness concerning domestic abuse had risen over

the years but is still not sufficient. She said a special panel is considering the complex question of jail sentences for offenders.



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